THE BELL NEWS
And Ringers' Record:
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 302. [NEW SERIES.]—*VOL. VI.* SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888. ONE PENNY.

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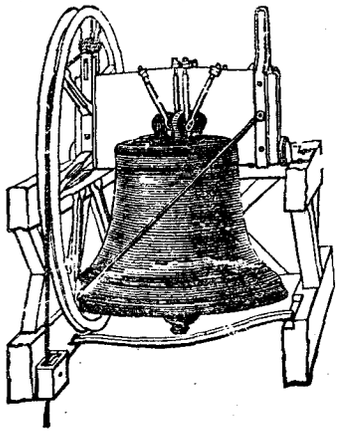

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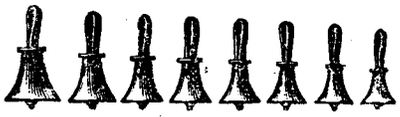

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LISCARD, CHESHIRE.—DEDICATION OF A NEW RING OF BELLS.

On Saturday afternoon, December 31st, a new ring of bells, which has been presented to St. Mary's parish church, Liscard, by Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks, in memory of her late husband, Mr. William Brooks, of Liscard, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chester. The bells, eight in number, were supplied by the firm of John Taylor and Co.. of Loughborough, and are considered fine specimens of their art. They bear the following inscriptions :—

Treble.—The Gospel Call, Hear Liscard All.
2nd.—We Toll For God, O'er Mersey Broad.
3rd.—To Ships From Sea, Ring Welcome Free.
4th.—To Outward Bound, God Speed We Sound.
5th.—By Brooks And Sands My Voice Expands.
6th.—Frances E. Sands. In Gloriam Dei.
7th.—Elizabeth Brooks. In Memoriam William Brooks.
Tenor.—Victoria Regina Jubilee. Henry Cochrane, M.A., Vicar.

Each bell, *excepting the tenor*, also bears the date 1887, and the Jubilee stamp used by Messrs. Taylor last year.

There was a large congregation at the service. The Bishop was accompanied by the Vicar (Rev. J. H. Cochrane) and other clergymen. The service was fully choral. After the lessons, the Bishop read several special prayers for the occasion, at the close of which a few rounds by a band of ringers from Liverpool, who were engaged for the occasion.

The hymn, "Lifted safe within the steeple," was then sung, and a sermon was preached by the Rev. A. E. P. Gray, Rector of Wallasey, who gave an excellent address, and one most fitting for the occasion. After the offertory, the recessional hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," was sung, and as the congregation dispersed, a course of each of the following methods was rung: Kent Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. A few rounds were then rung and the bells were fired. The ringers were: R. S. Mann, 1; John R. Pritchard, 2; W. Booth, 3; W. James, 4; G. Fisher, 5; T. Hammond, 6; H. Coley, 7; W. Davies, 8.

The Bishop afterwards presided at a meeting at the concert-hall, which was attended by about 400 persons. Tea was provided by Mrs. Brooks, and an hour was pleasantly spent in social intercourse, during which selections were played by the band of the 1st Lancashire (Liverpool) Engineer Volunteers, and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by the following: R. S. Mann, 1-2; J. R. Pritchard, 3-4; W. James, 5-6: T. Hammond, 7-8; W. Davies, 9-10. The ringers then proceeded to the tower and commenced to ring Thurstans' one-part peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 45 mins. a change-course occured through an intrusion of one of the bandsmen, who had changed hats in mistake at the Hall with one of the ringers. Nothing daunted, after seeing the church door secured. a fresh start was made, and a well-struck peal was brought round in 2 hrs. 57 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. Booth, 3; W. James, 4; G. Fisher, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond, 7; H. Coley, 8. After the peal, an adjournment was made to the mission room, where the ringers, bell-hangers, and friends partook of a most sumptuous repast, which was presided over by the Churchwarden. It is to be regretted that owing to it being New Year's eve the ringers had to make a early departure across the Mersey to their respective towers.

The bells, which are a very musical ring, are hung in the uew A frames, and the "go" of them is all that can be desired, Messrs. Taylor's men having done full justice to the work entrusted to them. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the bell-hanger and his assistants for having everything in readiness for their comfort, and leaving nothing to be desired.

A local band of ringers has been formed, with Mr. W. Davies of Liverpool, as instructor.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 21st, 1888. Particulars next week. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37, *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

RINGERS' DINNER AT ECCLES.

On Monday afternoon, January 2nd, the Eccles parish church ringers sat down to a most excellent dinner at the "Oddfellow's Arms," Church Street, Eccles. The dinner was provided at the expense of mine host, Mr. Goodall Alcock, and was in every way worthy of the occasion. Upon the removal of the cloth the chair was taken by Mr. Josiah Rogers. He said he was very glad to be amongst the Eccles ringers for the first time on New Year's Day. He had always found them very sociable and friendly, and he hoped they would always continue to remain so. The health of mine host was then responded to with enthusiasm.

Mr. ALCOCK, in response, thanked those present for their kind expression of good feeling towards him. He would always be ready to do the ringers a kindness in every way and hoped they would have many such meetings.

The remainder of the evening was spent in singing and social intercourse.

ROBOROUGH, TORRINGTON, DEVON.

For the last few days the six bells of the church tower here have, at intervals, been ringing to the great delight of the inhabitants, who for many years have been deprived of the pleasure as well as the use of them, on account of the dilapidated framework. At last, however, by the efforts of a few of the parishioners, subscriptions were solicited throughout the parish, and among other kind friends, resulting so satisfactorily as to guarantee the renovation and rehanging. The work was entrusted to Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury, Devon, who has carried it out to the very great satisfaction of all concerned. The Hon. Mark Rolle, with his wonted liberality, contributed the oak necessary for the principal portion of the frame.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT BISHOP AUCKLAND.

ON New Year's Eve the ringers of St. Andrew's church, Bishop Auckland, were entertained to a substantial supper by the Rev. E. Sutton, at his house. After doing ample justice to the good things provided the ringers proceeded to the church tower, where touches of Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples were rung for midnight service. The new year was welcomed by a touch of 612 changes of Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton. 1: J. W. Cleminson, 2: A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. G. Pratt, 4; J. Pallister, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; H. C. Mayne, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on Saturday, January 7th, 1888, and the bells of the parish church (eight) will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Committee Meeting in the Vestry at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Queen's Hotel at 5 p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are invited. It is particularly requested that those members who intend being present at the tea will send their names to the local Hon. Sec., Mr. John Jaggar, 145, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent, on or before Wednesday, January 4th, 1888.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5, *St. Paul's Street, Burton-on-Trent.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, January 16th. The tea will be held at the Leopold Coffee Tavern at 6 o'clock precisely. Those who wish to be present are requested to send notice of their intention to the Manager, Leopold Coffee Tavern, Kingston-on-Thames, before Friday, the 13th inst., in order that proper provision may be made for them. The tea will be followed by the usual business meeting. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for the current year are due at this meeting.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.

On Wednesday, December 28th, the ringers of this parish had a very enjoyable day's outing. Leaving Bedford at 9.38 a.m., they journeyed to Blunham, where they were met by Mr. James Bone, the captain of the local ringers, who conducted them to the tower in which hangs a heavy ring of five, with a very long pull, and the bells being hung low on the stocks, necessitates very large wheels, and there is in consequence a great deal of rope. The tenor being 26 cwt. in E flat. The being raised, it was found the "go" of them was not all that could be could be desired. After several rounds and one or two twenty-fours with the tenor behind, the visitors decided to attempt a six-score, in spite of being told by the local ringers that owing to the weight of the tenor and the length of rope, it had always been considered impossible to turn the tenor in. Accordingly a six-score was started for and successfully brought round. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; H. A. Wood, 3; H. King, 4; C. R. Howard (conductor), 5. The striking was fair, considering the circumstances. This is believed to be the first 120 ever rang on the bells. After the local ringers Messrs. Reed, Harding, Denis, Mann, Ekins, Bone (captain), had then had a pull, another six-score of Grandsire was rung. W. West, 1: C. West, 2; H. King, 3; H. A. Wood, 4; C. R. Howard (conductor), 5. The bells were then ceased, and the visitors and local ringers retired to Mr. Thomas Clarke's, where an enjoyable hour was spent, and at 2 p.m. set out for Tempsford, where there is a light peal of five, tenor about 8 cwt. Several six-scores were rung here, and then the party returned to Blunham, where tea was provided by Mr. Clarke, and finally caught the 5.30 train home, having spent a very enjoyable day. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper, to thank the vicars and others who helped to contribute to their day's enjoyment.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Saturday, December 31st, the members of this society met in the belfry at 8 p.m. to pay respect to the passing year. Having got the bells up, a very pleasant meeting was held, the rector (the Rev. S. E. W. Bird), in the chair; there were also present, Messrs. J. Moss, A. Shepherd, W. Stocker, C. Carter, F. Shepherd, E. Shepherd, F. Davey, W. Bartlett, T. Templeman, J. Bastin, J. Lake, B. Mundy, and W. Mundy. The Secretary (B. Mundy), having read a short report of the doings of the society since Easter, which was considered satisfactory, asked the Rector to present Mr. S. Binfield with a handsome duplex lamp, as a token of their respect on the occasion of his marriage.

The rev. gentleman, in making the presentation, said it gave him a very great deal of pleasure to take part in the proceedings, and was never better pleased than when he was with the ringers, and he should do his best to promote their interest. He dearly loved the bells, which could never be rung too much to please himself and his wife.

Mr. Binfield suitably responded, and a hearty vote of thanks recorded, the rector ended the meeting. The ringers then adjourned for supper at the "Poltimore Inn," and a pleasant evening was spent. Meeting again at the belfry at 11 p.m., 168 Stedman Triples, also 210 and 560 Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled. We saw the last of the old year, and having removed the muffles and rang the new year in with merry peals, we wished each and all "A Happy New Year."

B. Mundy, *Hon. Secretary.*

Woodford (Essex).—On Friday, December 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; J. Nunn, 3; E. Barnett, 4; G. Cornell, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also on the same date, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Wood, 1; J. Nunn, 2; E. Barnett, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Priest, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, December 28th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Wood, 1; J. Priest, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. Pitton, 4; H. Scarlett (conductor), 5; A. Tennent, 6. Messrs. Pitton and Tennent hail from Willesdon. Also on Saturday, December 31st, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; J. Nunn, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Priest, 4; T. Wood, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

WESTON-UNDER-PENYARD.

The Church Bells.—The peal of bells in this parish, which for some time past had been in an unfit state for ringing, have lately been rehung upon the newest and most modern principles. The frame has been strengthened with new oak braces, screw bolts, and anchors. The bells were cast by the celebrated firm of Rudhall, of Gloucester, in the year 1704, and were found to be much worn where the clappers strike. This has been all remedied, the bells being turned on new stocks, and fitted with reversible crown staple and clappers, best gun metal bearings, and other fittings of newest style. The gudgeons are of best Low Moor iron, and were turned on the stocks, and fitted into cast iron bed plates to the under side of the stocks. The fifth bell, which was cracked, has been replaced by a new one, bearing the names of the rector and churchwardens. It is said to be of fine tone, and clear casting. The other bells have been tuned, and are now considered a very musical peal of six. The tenor is about 12 cwt. The bells were rung for the first time on Thursday, December 29th, when the local band, assisted by friends from Ross and Foy, rung several touches of Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles, after which they sat down to a substantial repast kindly provided by the rector in the schoolroom. Musical touches and tunes were rung on the handbells, and a vote of thanks to the rector ended a most pleasantly spent evening.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Colchester, on Saturday January 7th. The tower of St. Peter's church (eight bells), will be open for ringing after 1 p.m. Tea (price 6d). to members who give notice beforehand), at No. 19, Head Street, at 4 p.m., to be followed by the usual business meeting. Return tickets at reduced fares will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway, to members of the Association who inform the Secretary before Wednesday, January 4th, from what station they intend to travel.

T. L. Papillon, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The anniversary meeting of the above Association will be held at Almondsbury (eight bells), near Bristol, on Monday, January 9th, 1888. The nearest station is Patchway, two miles. Divine Service at the parish church of St. Mary, at 11 a.m. Short address by the Vicar, Rev. Canon Cooper. Dinner at the Swan at 1 o'clock, at two shillings and sixpence per head; one shilling and sixpence allowed by the Association to all members who inform the Hon. Secretary of their intention of being present by the 4th inst.

Pitt Eykyn, *Hon. Sec.*

Magor Vicarage, Newport.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Notice.—The first meeting of the Macclesfield branch of the above Guild will be held in St. Michael's choir vestry on Saturday, January 14th, at 3.30 p.m., to elect a Chairman and a representative from each band to form a Committee, and to elect members, besides other important matters. It is hoped that all will be present. After the meeting a tea will be held at a moderate figure, at the "Black Horse" Inn, and those who intend having tea must inform the undersigned on or before January 10th.

William Walmsley,

Gurnett, near Macclesfield. *Local Sec. and Treasurer.*

Stourbridge (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, December 19th, at St. Thomas's Church, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 31 mins., with the tenor covering. J. Pagett, 1; C. Barrett, 2; H. Harris (conductor), 3; T. Lees, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; J. Crump, 8. This was rung as token of respect to the memory of the late Mrs. Wyndham, of Portsmouth, mother of Mr. C. W. Wyndham, one of the respected churchwardens. On Monday, January 2nd, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with the tenor covering. J. Pagett, 1; C. Barrett, 2; T. Lees, 3; W. A. Pugh, 4; H. Harris, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6; J. Crump, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The quarterly meeting in connection with the above Society, will be held on Saturday, January 7th, 1888 at Bilston. Ringing at 2.30. Tea at 6 o'clock, One Shilling per head. Kindly let me know on or before the 4th inst, how many of your band will attend, and oblige S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, *Bull Street, West Bromwich.*

WHETLEY MILLS HANDBELL RINGERS.—BRADFORD, YORKS.

After fulfilling a number of successful Christmas engagements, this celebrated band assembled at the house of Mr. J. H. Hardcastle (conductor of the parish church company), on Wednesday evening, December 28th, where they met a goodly gathering of friends. Several tunes were performed by the band in their usual fine style, as well as courses of Grandsire Triples and Major by the parish church men. At the close of a very pleasant evening's entertainment, a cordial vote of thanks to the performers was, on the motion of Mr. Joseph Stott, seconded by Mr. John Jowett—carried with applause by the company present.

ST. WOOLO'S GUILD, NEWPORT, MONMOUTHTHIRE.

The majority of the members of this Guild received their first lesson in the management of a bell early in 1887, and their praiseworthy efforts to become half-pull change-ringers, have been rewarded by their commencing the New Year by accomplishing several six-scores of Grandsire. The striking was very good, considering the rickety state of the frames. Hopes are entertained that before 1889 the ring will be increased to eight. H. A. Millard and J. N. Wreford, 1; G. Pincott, 2; W. J. Pickard, 3; F. Attewell, 4; W. Gower, 5; J. Trowbridge, 6.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

***To the Editor of* "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."**

THE TRINITY PEALS AND THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

SIR,—The Waterloo Society does not desire to enter into controversy in your columns upon the subject of the conduct of its business, but as Mr. Lucas's letter in your issue of the 24th ulto. is calculated to create a wroug impression, and as the society considers that it has been very badly treated by the persons named therein, and is now charged with a want of straightforwardness, I am directed to state that I have written eleven letters and three post-cards to Messrs. Waghorn jun., Lucas, and Barnett, and one letter to the conductor of the peals (the first letter being dated so long ago as 23rd August last), and in reply I get one letter from Mr. Barnett, one letter and a post-card from Mr. Lucas, nothing at all from Mr. Waghorn, jun., and no entrance fees from either. Mr. Waghorn has told me twice of his unsuccessful attempts to get over to Waterloo, and Mr. Lucas did come over once, in my absence, but did not leave anything behind him. The 1s. 3d. he speaks of spending to get the matter settled must have gone for travelling expenses in getting from North to South London, as the letter and post-card 1½d., represent all the Society has seen of it.

W. TYACK, *Sec.*

Back numbers wanted of "THE BELL NEWS" for Vol. V, 1886; July 3rd and 10th, and August 7th. Vol. VI, 1887; October 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th; November 5th, 12th, 26th. Must be clean and in good condition. Rev. C. S. Rowland, 176 Drake Street, Rochdale.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Tuesday, December 27th, at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Lawrence (first 720 of Minor), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6, On Sunday, January 1st, 720 Bob Minor. S. Lawrence, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; T. Blackbourn, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

TICKHILL (Yorkshire).—On Christmas Day, for evening service, at the church of St. Mary, 720 New London Pleasure, in 24½ mins. A. Wright, 1; C. Ainley, 2; F. Jenkinson, 3; A. B. Pearson, 4; G. Gledall, 5; J. S. Jenkinson (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 26th, 720 Duke of York, in 25 mins. Also 240 of Primrose, in 8½ mins. A. B. Pearson, 1; C. Ainley, 2; F. Jenkinson, 3; T. Mannerfield, 4; G. Gledall, 5; J. S. Jenkinson (conductor), 6. A. B. Pearson hails from Campsall.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 1ST, 1888:—

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On December 29th, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob. T. Streeter, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Gasson, 3; R. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Street r, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 1st, 1888, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. A. Stoner, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Stoner, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; T. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On New Year's eve, at 11 30 p.m, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, in 18 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; T. Reilly, 2; T. Salmon, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; W. Allfrey, 7; W. Vernon, 8. Also on New Year's Day, at 12 a.m., a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Salmon, 3; H. Weston (conductor), 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; J. Reilly, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. And on Monday, January 2nd, prior to the induction of the Rev. Prebendary Hannah as vicar of Brighton, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; C. Tyler, 2; W. Palmer, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Atrree (conductor), 6; W. Allfree, 7; H. Cornwall, 8. Also at St. Nicholas, Brighton, on Sunday, January 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. Jesse Neves, 1; C. Tyler, 2; J. Fox, 3; W. J. Fisher, 4; H. Boniface, 5; W. Palmer, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; G. A. King, 8. And after the evening service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples in, 19 mins. Jesse Neves, 1; C. Tyler, 2; W. J. Fisher, 3; G. A. King, 4; H. Boniface, 5; W. Palmer, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Paver, 8.

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Sunday, December 18th, for Divine Service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 27 mins. R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters (conductor), 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell, 7; James Parson, 8. Composed by F. Hounsell, and contains the nine 6-7's. On December 26th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. H. Miles, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell (conductor), 6; T. Fox, 7; Smith, 8. Also on Sunday, January 1st, 1888, at 12.5 a.m., a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. *L. Gibb, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; F. Fox, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; H. Bowell, 8. *First 504.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Tuesday, December 27th, a 5040 in 7 differeut Minor methods, in 3 hrs. and 8 mins. (for particulars see peal column.) Also on Wednesday, December 28th, a 5040 in 7 different Minor methods, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. (for particulars see peal column. Also on Friday, December 30th, a 5040 in 7 different Minor methods, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. (for particulars see peal column. Also on Saturday, December 31st, a 5040 in 7 different Minor methods, in 3 hrs. (for particulars see peal column. Also on Sunday, January 1st, 1888, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. L. Morris, 1; E. Brockley, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Smart, 4; T. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Matthews, 1; C. Chambers, 2; F. Morris, 3; T. Searle, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

By the Worth branch at Worth.—On Saturday, December 31st, a 5040 in 7 different Minor methods in 2 hrs. 38 mins. (for particulars see peal column. GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE HOLYWELL (OXFORD) BELL FUND.—Mr. J. W. Washbrook, writes:—"Would those gentlemen who have promised, or given subscriptions to the above Fund, kindly drop me a post card saying the amount promised, or given, as it is the intention of the Oxford ringers to carry out the work if possible, and thus help the University society and themselves in a matter so sadly needed."

WHITFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, January 2nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. A. Jones, 1; E. Rostron (conductor), 2; E. Haigh, 3; J. A. Thomas, 4; P. Smith, 5; F. Hoyland, 6. Also a 240 in the same method, standing as before. Tenor 12½ cwt. Jones hails from Dinting; T. Smith and Hoyland belong to Houghton; the rest belong to Whitfield.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

The ringers of this town have not been forgotten during the recent gay and festive season. On Christmas-eve, the company sat down to a capital spread at the "Angel" hotel, by the kind invitation of Dr. W. Mason who takes a great deal of interest in bell-ringing. After some of the good things provided had been disposed of, the company adjourned to another room, where the handbells were brought out, and courses of Grandsire Cinques, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major, etc., were rung, and several tunes played to the delight of many who visited the company during the evening. Some songs were given by the two celebrated vocalists, Messrs. Tolliday and Harper, Mr. Sillitoe accompanying on the pianoforte. "The Health of Dr. Mason" was drunk with musical honours, over a bowl of punch, accompanied by expressions of thankfulness for his kindness and liberality. The Mayor had kindly granted an hour's extension so that the ringers should not remain out in the cold while awaiting to ring in the morning of Christmas. At 11.45, however, the company adjourned to St. Peter's tower, where a touch of Bob Major, 576 changes, was rung by F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. After wishing each other "the compliments of the season," the company dispersed to their homes, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

On Christmas morning the bells of St. Gregory's were rung at 7.0 a.m., 640 of Treble Bob Major being rung by F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; M. Silvester, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Howell, 5; W. Griggs, 6; A. Scott, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. St. Peter's was the next church visited, where a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung; in the afternoon touches of Stedman Triples being rung at St. Gregory's; and Grandsire Triples in the evening at St. Peter's.

On Tuesday morning, the company met at St. Peter's church, and with Mr. Hammond, of Ringmer, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Tolliday, 1; G. C. Hammond, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scotl, 6; H. Harper, 7; W. Howell, 2. And a 576 of Bob Major. At All Saints' church, in the afternoon, a touch of Bob Major by F. Tollida-, 1: A. Howell (Hornsey), 2; W. Howell, 3; W. Bacon, 4; J. Campin, 5; G. C. Hammond, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8. And 408 of Stedman Triples by W. Cross, 1; J. Campin, 2; W. Howell, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Griggs, 5; A. Scott, 6; H, Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

On New Year's eve, the company met at the "Anchor" inn, where through the liberality of Miss Kershaw a first-class hot supper was provided for them, which repast was well served up by host Nicholls. After the various courses had been gone through, to the infinite satisfaction of the conductor, the tables were cleared, and all made themselves comfortable, tobacco and other creature comforts being unlimited. The company were visited during the evening by Dr. Mason, G. L. Andrewes, Esq., and Bayley Ransom, Esq., these gentlemen taking part in a touch of Bob Major on the handbells. The Mayor again kindly granted an hour's extension as on the former occasion, and a very happy and and enjoyable evening was spent until 11.45, when St. Peter's steeple was visited and 560 of Bob Major rung by F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8.

On New Year's day St. Peter's bells were rung for morning and evening service, Treble Bob and Stedman being selected. The finishing to the Christmas and New Year's ringing was a 756 of Stedman Triples, by W. Howell, 1; W. Cross, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Griggs, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; C, Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Thus ended a very enjoyable and pleasing time among the ringers of Sudbury, who are evidently not forgotten whilst doing their work—unseen but not unheard.

POSLINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 29th, at the parish church, the local company rang for practice six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and three 6-scores of Bob Doubles in 45 mins. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. Also on Monday, January 2nd, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles (with extremes), for the first time. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; D. Gridley (conductor), 5. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Atkinson, 1; D. Gridley, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5.

ST. MARY'S-WITHOUT-THE-WALLS, CHESTER.

THE Society of ringers in connection with this church held its fourth annual dinner at the "Eagle Hotel," on New Year's Eve, when ringers and friends to the number of twenty sat down to a splendid repast, provided by Host and Hostess Hughes. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided (which consisted of old Christmas fare, roast beef and plum pudding), and the cloth being cleared, Mr. T. J. Bethell, conductor of the band, was voted to the chair, and Mr. R. Mills to the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN in rising to propose the first toast of the evening, that of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," said he was very pleased to see so many present that evening, it being the last day in her year of Jubilee. He hoped that those present would drink to her very good health, which was drank amid applause and the singing of "God save the Queen."

The next on the programme was a song by Mr. William Joinson, which was very well rendered.

The next toast was that of "Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and all the Royal Family."

Song by Mr. T. Meredith, "My Mother's parting gift" which was encored. Song by the Chairman, "Our Jack's come home to-day." The next toast was that of the "Army and Navy."

PAYMASTER SERGEANT STANDON, in responding, said as there were some volunteers present he wished to impress on their minds some good advice. In the course of a lengthy speech he said he had been in the service twenty-one years, and knew what soldiering meant. He spoke of the situation the army was in at the present time, and he was sure that if the Volunteers were called upon they would be a credit to their country.

Several other songs were sung by different members of the company.

The next toast was that of the "St. Mary's Society," coupled with the name of the Chairman, which was drunk amid loud applause.

The CHAIRMAN in response said he felt very proud to see that the company present had drunk his health in such a manner. He spoke at great length of the history of the Society, which was going on he thought very well, and now the Society had got such a fine peal of eight bells he was sure they would make great progress in the art of change-ringing. He spoke of the disappointments of which the Society had met with, having nearly got through a peal on three occasions, and he impressed upon them the necessity of being present at practice, for if they did not attend practice they would never make progress.

After drinking the health of the Host and Hostess, and thanking them for the manner in which they had served the dinner up for them, the handbells were brought into use, and selections of Scotch and Welsh airs were played upon them, much to the enjoyment of the company. After singing the National Anthem the company adjourned to the tower, having spent a very enjoyable evening, to ring the old year out and the new one in, when Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob was rung until the small hours of the morning, when all dispersed home, after wishing one and all a happy new year.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A trial of skill in the art of change-ringing on eight bells will take place at St. Thomas's church, Leesfield, Lees, on Saturday, January 21st, when the Association Cup will be competed for (according to the terms stated in the last Annual Report), and two other prizes given, namely: 2nd prize: eight silk pocket handkerchiefs, with figured bells and ringing mottoes woven in, by Edward Matthews, of Macclesfield, given by the Leesfield ringers. 3rd prize: Eight walking sticks of exquisite design and workmanship, given by a few friends. The draw for priority of ringing will take place at the undermentioned house at 12 o'clock. This competition is for members only. The annual dinner and meeting will take place on the same day at the house of Mr. William Taylor, "Devonshire Arms," Lees, near Oldham. Dinner at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those intending being present at dinner must signify the same to host Taylor on or before Thursday, January 19th. Members are notified that the annual subscription is due at this meeting.

JAMES S. WILDE, *Hon. Sec.*

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By S. MARSH, *West Bromwich.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 2 5 3 4		–	2	2
2 4 5 3 6	2	–	1	2
5 4 3 2 6	1	–		1
4 2 3 5 6	1	–		
5 3 2 4 6	1	–		2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–		1

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	B	M	H
5 2 3 6 4	–	–		–
3 5 2 6 4				–
2 3 5 6 4				–
6 2 3 4 5	–	–		–
3 6 2 4 5				–
2 3 6 4 5				–
4 2 3 5 6	–	–		–
6 3 2 5 4			–	–
2 6 3 5 4				–
3 2 6 5 4				–
6 5 3 2 4	–			–
3 6 5 2 4				–
5 3 6 2 4				–
2 5 3 4 6	–	–		–
3 2 5 4 6				–
5 4 3 2 6	–			–
3 5 4 2 6				–
4 3 5 2 6				–
2 4 5 3 6	–			
5 3 2 4 6	–			–
4 5 2 3 6	–			
3 2 4 5 6	–			S

Repeated.

The above peal contains the 6th twenty times right, and the 4th eighteen times in 6th's place. The 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
B 5 4 3 2 6		2	2
5 3 2 4 6		1	2
5 2 4 3 6		1	2
6 3 4 2 5	1	1	1
2 4 3 6 5		2	2
4 5 3 6 2	1		2
5 2 3 6 4	1		2
2 5 4 6 3	2		2
2 4 6 5 3		1	2
B B 2 3 4 5 6	2		1

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5376.

By EDWARD ROSTRON, *Whitfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 4 3 2 6			2	2
4 6 3 2 5	1			2
3 6 2 4 5			1	1
6 5 2 4 3	1			2
5 4 6 3 2		–		
3 5 4 2 6		–		2

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By C. W. CLARKE, *Bedford.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	B	M	H
4 2 5 6 3		–	–	–
5 4 2 6 3				–
3 2 4 6 5			–	–
5 4 3 2 6	–		–	–
3 5 4 2 6				–
4 3 5 2 6				–
4 3 2 6 5		–		–
2 4 3 6 5				–
5 3 2 4 6	–		–	–
2 5 3 4 6				–
3 2 5 4 6				–

Three times repeated.

Single instead of the bob at the 2nd and 4th part-ends. It has the 6th twenty-four times right and twenty times wrong, and was rung for the first time at St. Paul's Church, Bedford, on Thursday, December 22nd, 1887, conducted by W. G. Biggs.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5025.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6	5	16
*4 3 2 1 5 6		
4 3 6 2 5 1		–
6 3 4 1 5 2	–	–
6 3 2 4 5 1		–
2 3 6 1 5 4	–	–
2 3 4 6 5 1		–
2 3 1 4 5 6		–
1 3 2 6 5 4	–	–
1 3 4 2 5 6		–
1 3 6 4 5 2		–
6 3 1 2 5 4	–	–

These eleven courses three times repeated except first course, call 4 16, which brings up

1 3 2 5 4 6

Then call

2 3 6 4 1 5	4	16
2 3 5 6 1 4		–

Round by bobs 1, 5, 8, 9, 11, and one change.

*Bobs at 2, 4, 10, 12, 13, 16.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
2 6 3 5 4			2	
5 3 4 6 2	2	–	2	
6 5 3 2 4	2		2	2
2 4 5 3 6	2	–		2
3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2
2 6 4 3 5			2	
3 4 5 6 2	2	–	2	
6 3 4 2 5	2		2	2
2 5 3 4 6	2	–		2
2 6 5 4 3	2			1
4 5 3 6 2	2	–	2	
6 4 5 2 3	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2	–		2

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6	1	–	2	2
3 2 4 6 5		–		2
6 3 2 5 4		–		2
5 6 3 4 2		–		2
4 5 6 2 3	2		2	2
4 6 2 5 3			1	2
4 2 5 6 3	1	–	2	2
6 4 2 3 5		–		2
3 6 4 5 2		–		2
5 3 6 2 4		–		2
3 5 4 2 6	2			2
2 3 5 6 4		–		2
3 4 5 6 2	2	–	1	2
3 4 6 2 5	2		2	1
2 3 4 5 6	2		2	2

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent wrong, and all of the bells three course-ends at home.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5037.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	
6 5 3 2 4	9th in and out at three.
5 2 3 6 4	11th in four
2 6 3 5 4	11th in four
4 5 6 2 3	11th in three.
5 2 6 4 3	11th in four
2 4 6 5 3	11th in four
3 5 4 2 6	11th in three
4 3 5 2 6	7th in four
3 2 5 4 6	11th in four
2 4 5 3 6	11th in four
5 2 4 3 6	7th in four
4 5 2 3 6	7th in four
5 3 2 4 6	11th in four
2 5 3 4 6	7th in four
5 4 3 2 6	11th in four
4 2 3 5 6	11th in four
3 4 2 5 6	7th in four
2 3 4 5 6	7th in four
4 3 6 5 2	10th in eleven.
3 5 6 4 2	11th in four
5 6 3 4 2	9th in ten
6 3 5 4 2	9th in ten
2 4 3 6 5	11th in three
3 2 4 6 5	7th in four
2 6 4 3 5	11th in four
6 3 4 2 5	11th in four
4 6 3 2 5	7th in four
3 4 6 2 5	7th in four
4 2 6 3 5	11th in four
6 4 2 3 5	7th in four
4 3 2 6 5	11th in four
3 6 2 4 5	11th in four
2 3 6 4 5	7th in four
6 2 3 4 5	7th in four

The following calls bring round, 2, 2, 6s, 3, round in one lead.

It is officially announced that the January circulars, issued by the Managing Committee of the Emigrants Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., are now ready. Mr. Walter B. Paton, M.A., has has been appointed reviser of the circulars and handbook, Mr. John Pulker cohtinuing as chief clerk in general charge of the office.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms :—*

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.
" 6 " .. .. 3s. 3d.
" 3 " .. .. 1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "*THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888.

THE extract which we give in the next column from one of the Essex journals is evidently regarded as an unjustifiable attack upon those who are termed "tenants of the tower," at Romford. An emphathic contradiction is given to what our correspondent calls "absurd and ridiculous allegations," and we have every reason to believe there is little or no truth in the statement that the congregation were prevented from hearing the "beautiful fantasia," whatever that may mean, on the occasion in question. Our readers have repeatedly seen accounts of the chiming done at Romford—performances which are a credit to those accomplishing them; the services of the ringers being given voluntary, the only thing by the way of pecuniary compliment being an invitation to the local gentry to contribute to the ringers' fund at the end of the year. It is hinted to us that the "untimely" attack was made with a view of damaging the reputation of the local band. It is however satisfactory to learn that the ruse has not been so succesful as was anticipated. Provincial literary hacks have many matters to deal with, consequently a slight error occasionally may be permitted, but they should be shown that at times a little circumspection is necessary. But it is the old story. We suppose there will always be found among people employed on a newspaper, those who have, or fancy they have, a knowledge of everything under the sun, and it would seem that this is the case with the writer who has had the temerity to tread upon the toes of our Romford friends. There are many points that may be raised upon the extract penned by one evidently ignorant of the real facts, but we forbear to enter into a contest of words with such a sapient writer. Our own experience is that after the performance of Divine Service, in which the organ has played no inconsiderable part, many of the congregation upon leaving the Church, having had sufficient of that noble instrument for the time being, are glad to hear the bells strike out in harmonious change as they are proceeding homeward. Perhaps the scribe of the Essex paper may not only think, but positively know differently. But we can afford to leave such as he to enjoy their own opinion.

Our friends at Romford may take heart after all. We cannot suppose for a moment that the publication of this rodomontade will injure their reputation, or prevent the reform taking place in their bell-chamber at Romford which they have been looking for for so long. We know something of the calibre of those Essex newspapers which are published just over the metropolitan border, and very lightly esteem any of their utterances when they happen to be original.

A NOVEL ACCUSATION.

The following extract is taken from the *Essex Weekly News*. As that journal boasts of a circulation of 20,000, the "tenants" of the Romford tower desire, through the columns of this journal, to inform their numerous friends in all parts of the world that that portion of the extract relating to them is simply a monstrous falsehood. With respect to the allegation of "frequently robbing the congregation by commencing to ring a peal," as a matter of fact only four peals have been rung at Romford since 1813, one of these were rung during 1887, but the "tenants" at Romford are members of the Essex Association, consequently advocates of belfry reform, therefore neither of these peals were either rung, attempted, or even thought about upon the Sunday, The mind of the person who penned the following was evidently wandering for a subject, and we should not be surprised if the day arrives when he will find a home in the county asylum. His unjustifiable accusation of frequently robbing the congregation is met by the challenge to prove that the bells at Romford have been rung more than upon four occasions after service throughout the whole of 1887. Readers of "THE BELL NEWS," who from time to time have watched the progress made in chiming at Romford, and know the condition of the ringing appliances there, will be prepared to learn that this preposterous allegation of depriving the congregation of the pleasure upon Christmas evening of listening to an organ performance (an instrument those present had that evening had listened to twelve times) by the inopportune ringing of the bells, consisted of a touch of Grandsire Triples upon the chime cords and was only commenced after more than half the congregation had left the church. So much for this country scribe's aberration, which probably accounts for the declaration as to the circulation of his journal. The chiming after the service on Christmas evening was an attempt for a length of the Original, which is booked sooner or later to come off at Romford, that is provided no "untimely" scribbler attempts to damage in the eyes of the local gentry the reputation of those who will be the heroes of the day. B.

The following is the cutting referred to :—

"Campanology is one of the useful arts that have come down to us from our forefathers, and it ranks high among the engagements of the present day. The true science of bell-ringing is only acquired by careful training and long experience, and there are those who go so far as to say that a bell-ringer—like a poet—is born, not made. It is said that the practice has a peculiar fascination for its votaries, and that a man who has once been fairly initiated into its mysteries and pleasures has seldom been known to give it up until his strength has failed him. Perhaps there is nothing that falls gentler upon the ear and with a more pleasant and soothing effect upon the senses than the music of a peal of bells from a snow-covered tower in the early hours of Christmas morning, For a few, the sound has no charm; in others they awaken a weird sensation; but for the greater number they possess a delightful charm, either at morn or even. How few are not in sympathy with the lines of MOORE :—

Those evening bells; those evening bells!
How many a tale their music tells!
Of youth and home, and that sweet time
When last I heard their soothing chime.

But bells, like all things earthly, have their uses and abuses. Bell-ringers, however ardent may be their love for their employment, might certainly have the kindness to restrain the bounds of their enthusiasm, so as not to disappoint or annoy others. This exhortation might be applied specially to the ringers of St. Edward's Church, Romford, who frequently rob the congregation of the pleasure of listening to the concluding voluntary on the organ by commencing to ring a peal immediately the service is concluded. On Christmas night a very large number of the congregation stayed behind to hear a beautiful fantasia on "Hark, the herald-Angels sing," by the able organist of the Church, Mr. W. G. BAYLEY, but were deprived of this pleasure by the inopportune ringing of the bells. It is hoped that the "tenants of the tower" will take the hint, and by restraining their zeal for a few minutes prevent the recurrence of such a disappointment to the congregation."

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Peal.

On Thursday, December 29, 1887, in Two Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE "GOOSE AND GRIDIRON," ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

JOHN C. MITCHELL ..	1-2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY ..	5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM..	3-4.	GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	7-8.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

Umpires: Mr. William Baron and Mr. George Wild of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

The Provinces.

APPPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 26, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE ..	..*Treble.*	JESSE AVERY	5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	6.
WILLIAM C. BASTON ..	3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	7.
WILLIAM BENNETT	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above peal, which is now rung for the first time, is half of a 10080, with the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent, and the 3rd eighteen times in 6th's place without the 2nd ever being there, and will be attempted on Friday, January 6th, 1888.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY,
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Peal.

On Friday, December 30, 1887, in Two Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE TEMPERANCE HOTEL, GEORGE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL ..	1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	5-6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL.. ..	3-4.	THOMAS WALLER	7-8.

Conducted by JOHN C. MITCHELL.

Umpire: Mr. Tom Grant.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 28, 1887, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM STOCKER ..	..*Treble.*	FERRIS SHEPHERD	5.
EDWIN SHEPHERD	2.	WILLIAM MUNDY	6.
FREDERICK GOVER	3.	JAMES MOSS	7.
STEPHEN BINFIELD*	4.	THOMAS LAKE	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

*First peal. Mr. Gover hails from London, and is a native of Ottery. This is the first peal ever rung on these bells. All the above are members of the St. Sidwell's Society, Exeter. except Mr. Gover, who was given a place in the peal.

QUESTION OF A COMPOSITION.—Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, writes:—"Since the publication of Mr. J. W. Washbrook's 5039 of Grandsire Caters, on December 17th, 1887, I have seen no remarks on its special merits. It will be well for any band to compare first and fourth courses before ringing the same."

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

Opening and Jubilee Peal.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 16 cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN ..	..*Treble.*	GEORGE FISHER	5.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD	2.	WILLIAM DAVIES	6.
WILLIAM BOOTH..	3.	THOMAS HAMMOND	7.
WILLIAM JAMES	4.	HENRY COLEY	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

These bells were dedicated and opened by the above ringers the same afternoon.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION (REVERSED). Tenor 9¼ cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK	..*Treble.*	ALFRED BROWNING	5.
WILLIAM WOOD	2.	THOMAS SHORT	6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	3.	THOMAS PAYNE..	7.
JOHN VINER	4.	HARRY HYDE	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

WINSHILL, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, (BURTON BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

ISAAC MORLEY*	..*Treble.*	RICHARD W. LOGIE	4.
WILLIAM WILDE*	2.	*JAMES WOODWARD	5.
CHARLES GOLDER*	3.	*FRANK SHEPPARD ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM WYLDE.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

Jubilee Peal.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CUMBERLAND EXERCISE MAJOR, 6720 CHANGES; Tenor 15 cwt.

J. W. LANG..	..*Treble.*	H. BROOKE..	5.
J. KNOTT	2.	M. RAMSDEN	6.
A. BRIGGS	3.	L. ILLINGWORTH	7.
S. GOODALL	4.	W. COLLINS	..*Tenor.*

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

This is the third peal of Cumberland that has been rung at Liversedge by Liversedge men: the first on April 16th, 1838, composed by Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, and conducted by James Firth, of Liversedge, 5600 changes; the second on October 26th, 1867, composed by William Sottanstall, of Sowerby, and conducted by William Goodall, of Liversedge, 6240 changes; and the above is the third.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN	..*Treble.*	HARRY PEPPER..	5.
GEORGE PERRY	2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN ..	6.
WALTER WHITING	3.	JOHN W. OXBORROW ..	7.
GEORGE THURLOW	4.	ALFRED T. WIGTHTMAN	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This peal may be found in Snowdon's Treatise, part second, page 19. Mr. John Oxborrow hails from London; the rest are of the local company.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 21, 1887, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 5.) Tenor 18¾ cwt. in F.

JOHN MIDDLECOTE	*Treble.*	DANIEL J. ASTON	5.
FRANCIS E. WARD, ESQ.	2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS	6.
JOSEPH YEATES	3.	ALFRED A. WAITE	7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS	4.	THOMAS WHITE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

LEESFIELD, LEE, LANCASHIRE.

Jubilee Peal.

On Thursday, December 22nd, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH SHAW*	*Treble.*	JAMES BAILEY	5.
FRED CROSLAND	2.	JAMES PRIESTLEY	6.
EDWIN B. SHAW	3.	JOHN HILTON	7.
THOMAS EGERTON	4.	JOSHUA PLATT	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

*First peal.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

D. DAVIS	*Treble.*	F. MUSTY	5.
W. MORRIS	2.	W. T. PATES	6.
G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ.	3.	T. DAVIS	7.
T. STEEL	4.	A. W. HUMPHREYS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. T. PATES.

This peal was slow, but the striking throughout was excellent, and was rung to oblige G. H. Phillott, Esq., in order to obtain his 50th peal in the Jubilee year. He begs to return his best thanks to the friends who kindly rang with him, and wishes them and all brother ringers a happy new year and plenty of true peals.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN*	*Treble.*	HENRY BOWELL	6.
FREDERICK TILLETT	2.	WILLIAM MOTTS	7.
ROBERT HAWES	3.	JAMES MOTTS	8.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE	9.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER	5.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. RILEY, and Conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

Mr. W. E. Tydeman hails from Salisbury; the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. *First peal on ten bells.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887 in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE	*Treble.*	CHARLES STANBRIDGE	5.
ALFRED THOMAS	2.	WILLIAM R. SMALL	6.
SAMUEL REEVES	3.	JOHN BUFFERY	7.
ARTHUR J. JONES	4.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, December 29, 1887, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE BURTON VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN AUSTIN	*Treble.*	EDWARD I. STONE	5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW	2.	HARRY WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	*Tenor.*

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 4th and 6th respectively nine and twelve times in sixth's place.

Date Touches.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TAMWORTH.—On Sunday, January 1st, at St. Editha's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Windridge, 1; C. Chapman, 2; J. Wainwright, 3; J. Timms, 4; F. Chapman, 5; H. Slaney (conductor), 6; G. Woods, 7; R. P. Brindley, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

BRITFORD (Wilts).—On Friday, December 30th, at the parish church, a date touch, consisting of 1287 of Grandsire and 600 of Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5. This is the longest touch on the bells.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 1st, at St. Sidwell's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham.

HALESOWEN (Worcestershire).—On Monday, January 2nd, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. H. Lea, 1; W. Raybould, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; R. A. Eaton (conductor), 6; E. Hackett, 7; M. Hackett, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, and taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of December 10th, 1887.

HIGHER WALTON (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins., viz. 720 London New Bob, 720 College Single, 360 Oxford Bob, 60 Plain Bob, and 28 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Harwood, 2; H. Hunt, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. Eccles, 5; J. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

HUDDERSFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 1st, for evening service, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. and 8 mins., in seven courses. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; A. Sykes, 3; G. W. Schofield, 4; C. Craven, 5; B. Shaw, 6; C. W. Clegg, 7; F. Schofield (composer and conductor), 8.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, December 17th, at St. Margaret's church, a date touch of Stedman Caters (1887 changes), in 1 hr. 19 mins. J. Wilson, 1; T. Wilson, 2; S. Cooper, 3; G. Burrows, 4; W. Cooper, 5; J. Walton, 6; G. Cleal, 7; A. Millis, 8; G. Marlow (composer and conductor), 9; W. Walker, 10. G. Cleal hails from Worcester. Also on Tuesday, December 27th, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1887 changes), in 1 hr. 18 mins. J. Jarvis, 1; G. Burrows, 2; S. Cooper, 3; A. H. Wilson, 4; W. Cooper, 5; T. Cooper, 6; T. Wilson (conductor), 7; A. Millis, 8; J. Marlow, 9; C. Biddles, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. This touch was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of July 30th.

LONGNEY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday evening, December 31st, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1887 changes), in 1 hr. 2 mins. W. Ellis (conductor), 1; R. Ellis, 2; W. Ward, 3; A. Longney, 4; R. Gardner, 5; D. Pockett, 6. Also on Sunday morning, January 1st, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 2 mins. W. Ellis (conductor), 1; R. Ellis, 2; W. Ward, 3; A. Longney, 4; R. Gardner, 5; E. Taylor, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Christmas Day for early morning service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1887

changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Prescott, 1; H. Ellis, 2; W. B. Lloyd, 3; W. Ellis, 4; J. Sholicar (conductor), 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; G. Prescott, 7; J. Pilkington, 8. Composed by J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, January 1st, at St. Lawrence Church, for evening service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hour 11mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; W. Johnson, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Goseltine, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

RENDHAM (Suffolk).—On New Years' Eve at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 240 each of the following methods; Bob Doubles, Little Bob, April Day, St. Dunstan, Grandsire, Gog Magog, Dream, and 208 Old Doubles. G. Cooper (conductor), 1; H. Cooper, 2; W. Boast, 3; W. Lambert, 4; W. Rouse, 5.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Marie's (R.C.) a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1887 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Midgley, 1; T. Sarel, 2; J. Goacher, 3; G. O. Dixon, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Mulligan (conductor), 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; G. Taylor, 8. The above touch was rung on the occasion of the Jubilee of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. It was also the birthday of Messrs. G. O. Dixon and T. Sarel, the ringers wishing them many happy returns of the day.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, January 1st, for Divine Service at the parish church, eight members of the St. Bartholomew's society rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), containing the tittums and the twenty-four 6-7's in 1 hr. 8 mins., J. Gough, 1; H. Malborn, 2; A. Malborn, 3; S. Atkins, 4; J. Batte, 5; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 6; W. Smith, 7; J. Malborn, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

WINTERBOURNE EARLS (Wilts).—On Thursday, December 29th, at the parish church, a date touch, consisting of 1287 of Grandsire, and 600 of Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. S. Lawrence, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 1st, for Divine Service, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Monday, December 26th, at the church of St. Mary, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Dawson, 1; C. H. Howard, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Richell, 4; W. Newsham, (conductor), 5; F. Newman, 6. First 720 by all except C. H. Howard. Tenor 13 cwt.

NEWPORT (Essex).—On Monday, December 26th, six members of the Stanstead branch of the above Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. H. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior. 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on these bells. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles). C. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Sunday, December 4th, at the parish 720 of Double Court Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Smith, 1; F. W. Haslem, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. Also on Monday, December 5th, 720 of Yorkshire Court in 26 mins. H. Deal (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslem, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; E. Strugnell, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. H. Brewer, 4; H. Deal (conductor), 5; F. Strugnell, 6. Also on Sunday, December 18th, 720 College Single in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; F. W. Haslem, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 20th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, December 23rd, 720 Yorkshire Court in 25½ mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. And on Christmas Day, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. H. Judd, 1; F. W. Haslem, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, December 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Smith 1; F. W. Haslem, 2; J. Johnson. 3; F. Strugnell, 4; H. Deal, 5; W. H. Judd (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, December 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. G. Smith, 1; F. W. Haslem, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, on New Year's Eve, 720 Yorkshire Court in 26 mins. H. Deal, 1; G. Smith, 2; F. W. Haslem, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; W. H. Judd (conductor), 6. First in the method by the sixth man. And at 11 o'clock with the bells half-muffled, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. H. Deal (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslem, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell, 6. Also at midnight the hour was tolled with the tenor, and after some firing, the New Year was ushered in with a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. H. Deal, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslem, 4; F. Strugnell, 5; W. H. Judd (conductor). 6.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Friday, December 30th, six members of the Rayleigh company paid a visit to the parish church and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. G. Smith, 1; H. Deal, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslem, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; W. H. Judd (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single in 24 mins. J. Pavitt, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslem, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. J. Pavitt belongs to the local company. The visitors wish through the medium of this paper to thank the rector (the Rev. —. Webster), for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells, and for having everything got in readiness for them.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On New Year's Eve, with the bells deeply-muffled, two 360's of Plain Bob Minor, 6-8 covering. And at 12, to welcome the new year, 720 with the bells open. J. Everard, 1; A. Edwards, 2; R. Wood, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; F. Radley, 5; C. J. Dennison 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. On Sunday, January 1st, before evening service, Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes) was attempted, but the bells ran round through a shift. A quarter-peal in the same method (J. Carter's) was then rung in 44 mins. W. Harvey, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 6; W. Lincoln (confiuctor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN.—On Wednesday, December 21st, at St. Peter at Arches, 896 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. D. W Brown, 1; J. W. Watson, 2; Hy. Maidens, 3; Hy. Hoyes, 4; C. Wells, 5; J. Vickers, 6; T. Shearing (conductor), 7; J. Ellard, 8. The above band met for a peal, which unfortunately came to grief. And on Monday, December 26th, a 720 of Bob Minor on the middle six. H. Maidens, 1; J. W. Watson (conductor), 2; D. W. Brown (first 720), 3; C. Wells, 4; J. Vickers, 5; W. Knowles, 6; J. Ellard, 7.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE.—On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Alban's church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing half an hour it came to grief, and time not permitting to commence again, the last half of Mr. John Carter's ten-part peal was rnng in 1 hr. 34 mins. F. Birtwistle, 1; J. Millett, 2; W. R. Barrett, 3; J. Pilkington, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; J. Harrison (conductor), 6; J. Wauch, 7; J. J. Hartley, 8. Mr. Wauch was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On New Years eve, the following members of the local society started for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Reeves's variation), but owing to the Treble man being taken ill, the bells had to be brought round at the half way single, in 1 hour 23 minutes. Fred Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; John Morris, 3; E. Bishop, 4; A Hardman, 5; John Hardman, 6; A. Barrett (conductor), 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, after evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoobridge, 2; W. Taylor, 3; A. Phyall, 4; G. Osborn, 5; R. Edge (conductor), 6; E. Taylor, 7; T. Wilsted, 8. Fourth and tenor cover.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. W. Tiple, 1; H. D. Davis, 2; *W. Ansell, 3; C. Waterman, 4; F. Hayes, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. *First 720 on an inside bell, and first 720 in any method. W. Ansell halls from Cobham, C. Waterman from Shorne, and G. Hayes from Swanscombe; the rest belong to the local company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Saturday, December 31st, at midnight, the old year was rung out with a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, the bells

being half-muffled. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. After the muffles were removed, the hour was tolled on the tenor. Afterwards the new year was joyously rung in with a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; E. Pottinger (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Christmas Day morning, an attempt was made at the parish church to ring a 5040 in seven different Treble Bob methods, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2180 changes in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan (conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also on Saturday, December 31st, to ring the old year out, 288 Oxford Treble Bob, and to usher in the New Year, 360 of Kent. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, December 26th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 559 Grandsire Triples. J. Hewett, 1; J. Staples, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Grafham, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8. On Monday, January 2nd, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Carter, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. Grafham, 4; G. Passingham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Saturday, December 31st, at midnight, at the Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, 518 of Grandsire Triples, and at 7 a.m. on the following morning, January 1st, 720 of Plain Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. W. Jarvis, 5; R. Jarvis, 6. At 10 a.m, 462 of Court Bob Triples, and for evening service, 518 of Grandsire Triples; after evening service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NEWDIGATE (Surrey).—On the evening of Christmas Day, six members of the above Associations visited St. Peter's church, and rang 720 London Surprise Minor, in 24 mins. F. Wickens, 1; E. Jordan, 2; R. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 8¼ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. Spencer, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. Pass, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. H. Pell (first quarter-peal), 1; W. Hall, 2; C. Pass (first quarter-peal on a bob bell), 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; H. Chapman, 8. And the new year was rung in with a 336 Grandsire Triples, with Queen's and Tittums. C. Pass, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 7; A. Andrews, 8. Also 168 in the same method, with Frank Hull, 8. On Sunday, January 1st, for morning service, 545 Grandsire Triples. H. Toll, 1; F. Keech, 2; C. Pass, 3; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 4; W. Allan, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8. Also 153 in the same method, with J. N. Frossell, 7. Also for evening service, 244 Bob Major, and 336 Grandsire Triples.

DENFORD (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 27th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. A. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; A. Groom, 5; W. G. Biggs, 6. Also 720 Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Groom, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; A. Martin, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor about 9 cwt. in A. A. Groom hails from Denford; A. Martin from Higham Ferrers; Clarke and Biggs from Bedford; Gilbert and Hall from Raunds.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 27th, at St. Peter's church, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Stubbs, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; W. A. Hall, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. Biggs and Clark hail from Bedford; the remainder belong to Raunds.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 27th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles. W. J. Gilbert, 1; W. A. Hall, 2; R. Shipley, 3; W. G. Biggs, 4; E. Mayes, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 720 Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles.) E. Mayes, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; G. Roberts (first 720 in the method), 4; W. A. Hall, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles.) E. Mayes, 1; W. G. Biggs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; A. Martin, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor about 17 cwt. in F. A. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers; Gilbert and Hall from Raunds; Clarke and Biggs from Bedford; and the remainder belong to the local company.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Wednesday, December 28th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendred, 3; W. A. Hall, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 720 Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke, 1; G. Kirk, 2; R. Pendred, 3; W. G. Biggs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 2520 in the following methods, in 1 hr. 33 mins.: 720 Oxford Bob, 720 College Single, 720 College Little, 360 Bob Minor. C. W. Clarke, 1; W. G. Biggs, 2; W. A. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Parker, 6. The Oxford Bob was conducted by W. A. Hall; and the remainder by W. J. Gilbert. Tenor about 21 cwt. in E.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, an attempt was made to ring a muffled peal of Union Triples as a last token of affection and respect for the late Mr. Urban Holman, a member of the Croydon Society, the Surrey Association, and the College Youths, who died on Thursday, December 29th. It was found to be impossible to finish the peal when nearly half had been rung, so the bells were allowed to come round in 2352 changes, which were accomplished in 1 hr. 35 mins. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; W. States, 5; T. Verrall, 6; A. Bruce, 7; S. Fisk, and S. Mayhew, 8. After which the usual whole pull and stand was rung. All the ringing was performed with the bells deeply muffled.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

SHIRE OAKS.—On Sunday, December 4th, a 360 of Kent and 2 of Duke of York. And for Divine Service in the evening a 720 40 Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Tomlinson, 1; S. Harvey, 2; of Russom, 3; W. Hargraves (conductor), 4; R. Knowles, 5; D. RussoE. 6. On Sunday, December 11th, for Divine Service in the morninn, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. And for Divine Service in thg, evening 240 each of Violet and New London Pleasure, standing ae above. And on Sunday, December 18th, for Divine Service in thes morning, 240 each of New London Pleasure and Duke of York. And for Divine Service in the evening, 360 each of Kent and Duke of York, standing as above.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Saturday evening last, being New Year's eve, several 6-scores were rung both at 6.30 p.m. and at midnight, among which was the following 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Ingram, 1; C. R. Howard, 2; C. West, 3; H. King (conductor), 4; *H. Clifton, 5; W. West, 6. *First 6-score ever attempted. On Sunday afternoon, January 1st, for service, 216 of Grandsire Minor. H. Chapman (Bedford), 1; C. W. Clarke (Bedford), 2; C. West, 3; H. A. Wood, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. King (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; H. Chapman, 3; H. King, 4; H. A. Wood, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt in G.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Christmas Day morning, at St. Martin's church, 420 of Stedman Triples. R. Jones, 1; W. Haywood, 2; J. Joynes, 3; J. W. Cartwright, 4; J. James, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; A. Thomas, 7; —. George (Coventry), 8.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—At the parish church, on Christmas morning for the early service, several 120s of Grandsire Doubles (called differently). G. Hewett, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. On Thursday, December 29th, 360 Grandsire Doubles (called different). W. Bowyer, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett (conductor), 3; F. Arnold, 4; F. Sanders, 5.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, December 11th, the following members of the local company met at St. Michael's church, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Fox, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling (first 720), 3; E. Dunnett, 4; R. Hutton, 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, December 26th, 360 Bob Minor. J. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; E. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, December 28th, 360 Bob Minor. J. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; E. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, 5; J. Frost, 6. And 480 Bob Minor, standing as before, conducted by J. Hinchley.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, December 31st, in the reading room, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called different.) E. B. Howell, 1; C. Dunkley, 2; R. Dunkley (conductor), 3-4: W. Richards, 5-6. Also a plain course of Grandsire Doubles. E. B. Howell, 1-2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; C. Dunkley, 5-6. On

Monday, December 26th, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. F. Smith, 1-2: R. Dunkley, 3-4; E. Chapman, 5-6; W. Richards, 7-8. Also 120 of St. Simon's Doubles. E. B. Howell, 1; J. Martin, 2; R. Dunkley (conductor), 3-4; W. Richards, 5-6. J. Martin hails from Keyston; E. Chapman from Rushden; the rest belong to Bythorn.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Saturday, December 4th, at St. George's church, 700 Grandsire Triples. E. Hole, 1; F. Pitts, 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; W. W. Kime, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8. And on Christmas morning, a 504, W. Thrush ringing in the place of J. Tudball, conducted by W. W. Kime. Also various touches during the day. And on Tuesday, December 27th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but a change-course occurred after ringing 1300 changes, in 50 mins. E. Hole, 1; W. W. Kime (conductor), 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; W. Thrush, 6; C. B. Craze, 7; J. Payne, 8.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, December 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 45 mins. C. Harffey, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; E. Willoughby, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Hart, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Willoughby (conductor), 7; J. Lewis, 8. This is the first quarter-peal in the method by all the band.

ELMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, December 26th, the Hempstead Company paid a visit to the parish church, and rang ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins. Arthur E. Pegler, 1; Alfred Smart, 2; Robert Prosser, 3; William T. Peglar (conductor), 4; George Taylor, 5; Ernest E. Bewick, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. sharp. Also six 6-scores in the same method, with William Dadge at the 2nd.

ELMLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday evening, December 26th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. Devereux, 1; A. Attwood, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; A. Devereux, 4; C. Smith, 5; H. Franklin, 6.

EXETER.—On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Edmund's church, 1050 of Grandsire Triples was rung. S. Meadows, 1; S. Herbert, 2; A. Searle (first 1050 inside), 3; E. Pitt (conductor), 4; H. Swift, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; T. Halse, 8. And on Sunday, January 1st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 700 in the same method. S. Meadows, 1; S. Herbert, 2; H. Swift, 3; W. Goss, 4; E. Pitt, 5; W. Marsh (conductor), 6; W. Richardson, 7; T. Halse, 8.

GREAT COMBERTON (Worcestershire).—On Monday, December 26th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins., two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. A. Attwood, 1; S. Cleal (Tewkesbury Abbey society), 2; H. Payne, 3; A. Devereux, 4; C. Smith, 5; E. Devereux (conductor), 6.

DINTING (Derbyshire).—On Monday, January 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, a 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Jones (conductor), 1; J. A. Thomas, 2; J. Howard, 3; J. Beswick, 4; P. Smith, 5; F. Hoyland, 6. Also a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. A. Jones (conductor), 1; J. Howard, 2; W. Wilde, 3; J. A. Thomas, 4; P. Smith, 5; F. Hoyland, 6. Messrs. Beswick and Jones belong to Dinting; the rest belong to Houghton. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HALESOWEN (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, January 29th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. H. Lea, 1; E. Hackett, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; R. A. Eaton, 6; H. Raybould (conductor), 7; M. Hackett, 8. Also on New Year's Eve, 1092 in the same method in 35 mins., standing as before.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Monday, December 26th, at the parish church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. ———, 1; C. Mickleborough, 2; F. Lambert, 3; G. Miles, sen., 4; F. Tillett, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Easter, 8. Also 336 of Bob Major. ———, 1; W. Chilvers, 2; F. Lambert, 3; G. Miles, sen., 4; C. Howard, 5; F. Tillett, 6; G. Miles, jun., 7; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Aldham and Tillett hails from St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; G. Miles, jun., from Luddenham; C. Miles, sen. from Wenhaston; the rest belong to Halesworth.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire). — On Saturday, December 31st, at the close of the Old Year, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. A. E. Pegler, 1; W. Dadge, 2; W. F. Thomas, 3; Alfred Smart (conductor), 4; G. Taylor, 5; H. Harris, 6. Also in the New Year, eight 6-scores in the same method. A. E. Pegler, 1; W. Roberts, 2; A. Smart, 3; W. T. Pegler (conductor), 4; G. Taylor, 5; H. Harris, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F. sharp.

KEMERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Bown, 1; A. Devereux, 2; F. Potter, 3; H. Payne, 4; C. Smith, 5; E. Devereux, 6.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Thursday, December 29th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the birthday of Mr. Jeremiah Bennett, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 25 mins. J. Bennett, 1; H. Williams, 2; T. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; R. E. Grove, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8.

LEADENHAM.—Recently, six members of the North Lincolnshire Association with T. Walkers paid a visit to St. Swithen's church, and rang several touches of Bob and Grandsire Minor. It was almost impossible a 720 owing to about a score of the natives being in the belfry and ringing Churchyard Bob with their tongues. F. Walker, 1; J. W. Watson, 2; H. Maidens, 3; J. W. Brown, 4; J. Vickers, 5; W. Knowlds (conductor), 6. And at St. Nicholas (Fulbeck), the same day, a 720 of Bob Minor, standing as before. Conducted by J. W. Watson.

LEICESTER.—On Tuesday, December 27th, at St. Margaret's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Winter, 1; T. Wilson, 2; T. Cooper, 3; J. Marlow, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; A. H. Wilson, 6; S. Cooper (conductor), 7; W. Walker, 8. Messrs. Winter and Chapman hail from Nuneaton. Also at the Club House, Craven Street, on handbells retained in hand, a course of Grandsire Caters. J. Marlow, 1-2; *T. W. Chapman, 3-4; T. Wilson, 5-6; S. Cooper, 7-8; A. H. Wilson, 9-10. *First touch of Caters. And on Wednesday, December 28th, at St. Saviour's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. *T. W. Chapman, 1; *H. Clayton, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; *J. Pole, 4; A. Millis, 5; J. Buttery, 6; J. Needham, 7; C. Biddles, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. *Longest touch. H. Clayton and J. Pole hails from Belgrave, and T. W. Chapman from Nuneaton.

LITTLE COMBERTON (Worcestershire).—On Monday, December 26th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Wittle, 1; A. Devereux, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; A. Attwood, 4; C. Smith, 5; H. Franklin, 6.

LONGNEY (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, December 19th, at St. Lawrence's Church, for practice, several courses of Grandsire Triples. W. Ellis, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; R. Prosser, 4; W. Ward, 5; A. Longney, 6; H. Merritt, 7; E. Taylor, 8. On Christmas morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), each 6-score called differently. W. Ellis (conductor), 1; R. Ellis, 2; W. Ward, 3; A. Longney, 4; R. Gardner, 5; E. Taylor, 6. And for afternoon service, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. Taylor, 1; R. Ellis (conductor), 2; W. Ward, 3; R. Prosser, 4; R. Gardner, 5; D. Pockett, 6. Also on Thursday, December 29th, being the ringing feast-day, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and courses of Triples, and two 168's of Grandsire Triples. W. Ellis, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; R. Prosser, 4; E. King (conductor), 5; A. Longney, 6; H. Merrett, 7; R. Gardner, 8. On Monday evening, January 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), each 6-score called differently. W. Ellis (conductor), 1; R. Ellis, 2; W. Ward, 3; R. Prosser, 4; R. Gardner, 5; E. Taylor, 6.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Christmas Day, for early celebration at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. H. Wallis, 1; W. Roberts, 2; E. Hughes, 3; A. Lambert, 4; G. H. Johnson, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6; W. Lee, 7; W. S. Knibb, 8.

OVERBURY (Worcestershire).—On Christmas eve, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, in 45 mins. C. Wittle, 1; A. Attwood, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; J. Atkins, 4; E. Devereux, 5. This is the longest length of Grandsire Doubles rung on these bells.

READING (Berks).—On Wednesday, December 28th, at St. Lawrence's church, an attempt was made to ring Hollis's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing in fine style for two hours a change-course occurred. H. White, 1; H. Bowden, 2; E. Reeves, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Johnson, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Gosletine, 8. On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Lawrence church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260), in 48 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; J. Potter, 2; W. H. Holloway, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Goseltine, 5; T. Hibbert, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Johnson, 8.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, January 1st, the local company started with the New Year, and rang H. J. Tucker's 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Grant, 1; A. Barnes, 2; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; W. Battle, 7; M. Pratt, 8. And a short touch of Union Triples, with R. A. Fowler on the second. On Monday, December 26th, 1887, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes), in 46½ mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1; A. Barnes, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. Battle, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, December 27th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Lewis, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, December 29th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 Bob Minor. E. Radley, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; C. Duncombe, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

MR. EDITOR,—After perusing the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" on Saturday evening, an irresistible feeling took possession of me, and I commenced cogitating. I don't know whether this season of the year is productive of a greater amount of meditation than any other, although it is proverbially supposed to be the time when innumerable good resolutions are formed, only—alas!—in too many instances but to be broken on the first opportunity that presents itself for carrying them into practice. Anyhow, I wondered (as the saying goes), and will proceed to give you the substance of my thoughts.

* * * * * *

I wondered if your pithy remarks in the leading article anent the state of organization of various ringing societies—notably in the Metropolis—will lead to an improved state of things during the coming year.

* * * * * *

I wondered what was the state of mind of the "talkative verger" of Settle, when surrounded by the ringers in the belfry, after he had brought the peal to grief through his unfortunate though well-meant verbosity.

* * * * * *

I wondered how Mr. Henry Chandler felt on Christmas Day, after having conducted the venerable "Holt's ten-part" no less than three times within one week; and whether it would not have redounded more to his credit had he selected different peals to call for his Christmas performances.

* * * * * *

I wondered, were an organist to play the same "voluntary" in Church Sunday after Sunday, if some of the more musical members of the congregation would not be suggesting that he should change his programme a bit.

* * * * * * *

I wondered whether, seeing the sameness of the methods rung, the Sussex men are not after all going in for quantity rather than variety in this method.

* * * * * * *

I wondered what has become of the West Riding of Yorkshire Association; or if it is still in existence.

* * * * * * *

I wondered, seeing the large number of touches reported—120's, 360's, and such like—week by week, what is the object some of our friends have in ringing. Is it to have good service peals, or to perfect themselves in the art, or in order to see their names in print?

* * * * * * *

I wondered, supposing this plan of reporting was carried out fully, *i.e.*, by all your subscribers, what would the dimensions of "THE BELL NEWS" assume in order to contain it all?

* * * * * * *

The Brothers Williams, of Liverpool, I see, have been visiting Sheffield, where they have been hospitably entertained during their stay. I am not surprised that they were well pleased with their visit; for I have been to Sheffield once myself, and shall never forget the hearty, generous manner in which I was treated by the ringers of that great Yorkshire town.

Another apology appears for a false peal sent for insertion. Are not these apologies getting too common? While applauding the praiseworthy zeal of our composers to have their productions inserted in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS, I venture to ask, would it not be better for the Exercise and for the reputation of the composers themselves, if they would take the precaution to have their peals proved true beyond a doubt before sending them for insertion? Imagine a company anxious to ring an original peal, and performing one which has appeared in these pages under the belief that the same is all right, to find in a subsequent issue an acknowledgement from the composer, or a statement from some one else, that the peal is false. That sort of thing will naturally tend to a feeling of distrust, thus many peals containing excellent qualities may be left unrung through this very fear of their being subsequently proved untrue. When confidence is lost, it becomes a serious case; and if the peal pages are to be of that benefit to the Exercise they ought to be—and which every true friend will desire they should be—this feeling of confidence in the truthfulness of what appears therein must never be allowed to fail. I maintain that the "onus of proof" does not rest with the Editor of the paper—who must in sooth have plenty of work without this—but solely with the composers or those who send these productions to the Editor for insertion.

* * * * * * *

Two interesting peals have very unfortunately been lost during the past week, viz., the long peal of Stedman Caters at Cheltenham, and the peal of Grandsire Triples attempted at Rochdale in honour of the eighty-fourth birthday of Mr. Thomas Bamford, a fine old veteran, whose ringing experiences carry back over sixty years. It is to be hoped that the attempters of the Caters peal will not lose heart, but will try again—and again, if need be—till they succeed. With reference to the latter peal, although the Rochdale men have failed in accomplishing their desire, their motive was creditable in thus doing honour to the oldest man in their ranks. I would fain, if I could, grasp the old gentleman's hand, and wish him heartily all the joy and happiness of this world, and trust that when his next birthday arrives, he may hear the peal well rung and successfully brought round.

* * * * * * *

I cannot close my notes this week without referring to the loss sustained by the Devonshire Guild through the death of one of its vice-presidents, Arthur Cruwys Sharland, Esq. Although the deceased gentleman had exceeded his "three score and ten," and although his demise might possibly have been hourly expected for some time, yet we feel the loss of our relatives and friends almost as keenly as we should had they been taken away more suddenly. The name of Cruwys Sharland has been well known to the Exercise through the productions of the late gentleman's accomplished daughter; and I have no doubt our Devonshire friends will ere this have assured Miss Cruwys Sharland of their sympathy with her in this affliction, in which sympathy they will be joined by their friends throughout the country.

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IT is proposed to hold a meeting of ringers at Cambridge on January 21st, to commemorate the centenary of the long peal of 6600 of Bob Maximus rung at Great St. Mary's, on January 21st, 1788. There will also be a meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association on that day. Further arrangements will be announced. Ringers who will attend the meeting are requested to communicate with M. C. Potter, 17, Fitzwilliam street, Cambridge.

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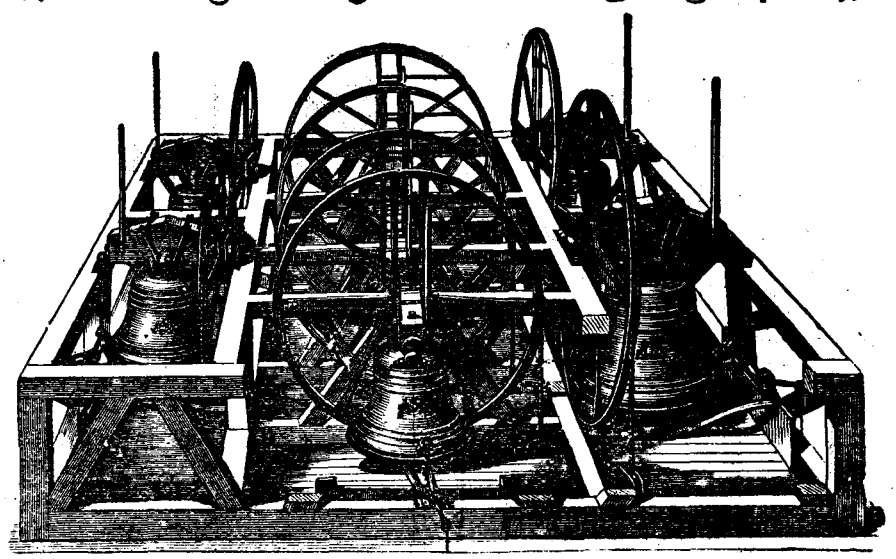

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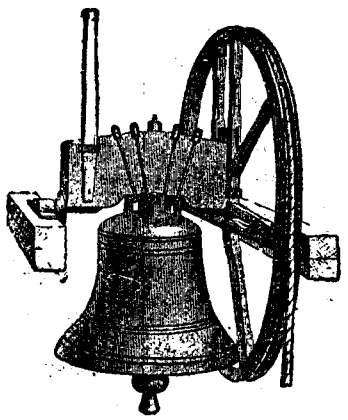

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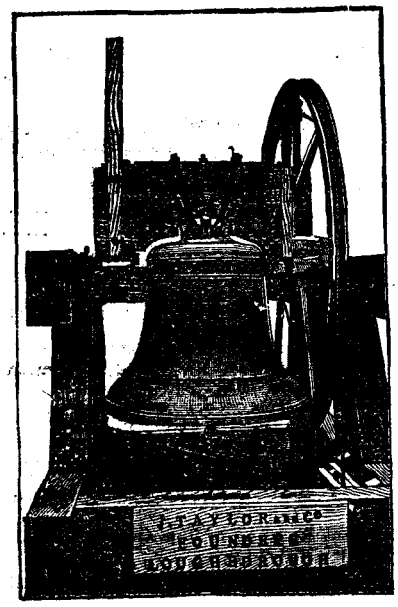

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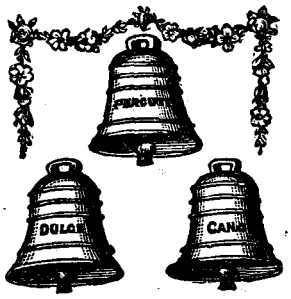

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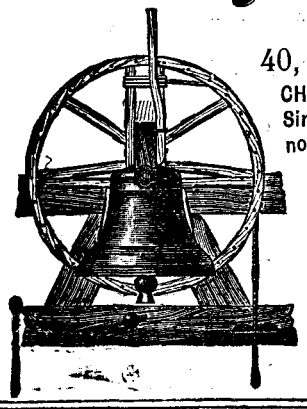

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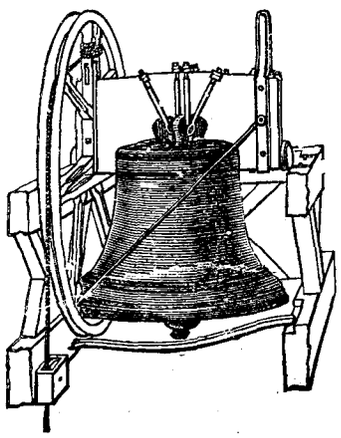

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ADDERBURY, OXFORDSHIRE.—DEDICATION OF THE NEW JUBILEE CLOCK AND CHIMES.

In June Adderbury celebrated Her Majesty's Jubilee in the manner that was followed in most places—viz.: by a substantial dinner to all the residents—but a movement was set on foot for the purpose of securing some permanent memorial of the occasion, and it was resolved a new clock and chimes in the tower of the parish church would be a fitting memento of one of the most memorable events of our time. Lady Charles Paulet took the greatest interest in the proposal, and through her well-directed efforts and those of others of the parishioners. the movement took a practical shape, and now in the old tower of Adderbury church there is a clock and chimes of the most modern construction. To celebrate the dedication of the new clock, and also as a memento of the Jubilee year, on Saturday week trees were planted at Adderbury East and West, and also near Milton by Masters Jepp, Master Cecil Granville, the Misses Bennett, the Misses Gardner, and the Misses Turner, and the tree planting was the occasion of much interest.

In the evening Lady Charles Paulet entertained at her residence a number of the leading farmers and others to a supper of the most liberal description. The chair was occupied by the Rev. H. J. Gepp, and the vice-chair by Lieutenant Granville. At the conclusion of the repast, the Chairman proposed "The Queen," which was loyally drunk.

Mr. N. Stilgoe then gave "The Bishop and Clergy," and spoke of the excellent manner in which the Bishop of Oxford discharged his duty. The toast was responded to by the Rev. Canon Payne, who referred in laudatory terms to the manner in which the affairs of the diocese were managed by Dr. Mackarness, and pointed out that the choice that was made of Bishops showed that in the long run, under the providence of God, the right men were appointed.

The Chairman next proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," and said that although he was a man of peace, he supposed that while human nature was what it was at present, armies were a necessity. He coupled with the toast the name of Lieutenant Granville, of the royal navy, and that gentleman suitably responded.

In proposing the health of their generous hostess, Lady Charles Paulet, the Chairman said it was a very fortunate day for them when her ladyship determined to settle at Adderbury. She took the greatest interest in the parish, and in possible way endeavoured to promote the welfare of the inhabitants. Among her many other acts of kindness they had only to look at the assistance she gave them in the restoration of their noble church, which by her generous help they were able to carry out.

The Chairman then gave "Success to the new Church Clock," and said that as Adderbury had now a railway station, it was only fitting that they should have a clock showing the correct time. If any one there took the trouble to go up to the belfry they would see that the clock was really a work of art. He was pleased that they had such a permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee as the clock and chimes would form, and considered they had a great deal to be proud of in Adderbury.

The same evening the choir and ringers were entertained to supper by Lady Charles Paulet, and at 11 o'clock the dedicatory service in the church began. The building was brilliantly lighted, and there was a large congregation. After prayers, the vicar gave a short but appropriate address upon the words—"Redeeming the time." After the address, the choir and clergy proceeded to the end of the church near the tower, and the hymn "O God, our help in ages past," was sung, and then the Vicar said—"I do solemnly dedicate the clock placed in this tower as a memorial of the jubilee of our Queen, and to the glory of God, for the use of the inhabitants of this parish." At five minutes to twelve Miss Paulet set the new clock going by pulling a rope in the tower, and the intervening five minutes were spent in silent prayer. At twelve the new clock in sonorous and melodious tones proclaimed the advent of a new year, and the hymn "Father let me dedicate all this year to Thee," was sung. The service then ended. Near the tower a brass has been placed on the wall bearing the following inscription:—"This clock with quarter chimes was erected in this tower by the inhabitants of Adderbury to the glory of God and in memory of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. December 31st, 1887. 'Redeeming the time.'" The memorial plate, which is nicely engraved, was presented by Miss Paulet. The new clock is replete with all the modern improvements so as to make a very accurate timekeeper, and form a standard for time in the village. The main frame of the clock is of one solid casting of iron, planed smooth and true, with all the various wheels, levers, and other working parts afixed to it by screws in such a manner that any separate one may be removed without interfering with any of the rest. All the brass wheels have had their teeth cut from the solid, so as to be perfectly accurate and smooth. The clock shows time on two dials, facing east and west. It chimes the "Cambridge" quarters upon four bells, and strikes the hours upon the largest bell. The movement is nicely inclosed in a glass fronted case in the ringing room. Messrs. J. Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work. The cost was about £130. Most of the inhabitants are bent upon adding the carillon machinery to their Jubilee clock, and are very anxious to have the Coronation Hymn at their next flower show. A considerable sum is already guaranteed for the purpose.

Our correspondent who sends the above report adds: "The village of Adderbury is on the Oxford road, about three miles from the famous Banbury Cross, and which most of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" heard of before they learned to ring Treble Bob, or even Churchyard Bob, but for all that there is at Adderbury a grand old church, more than five hundred years old, which has lately been restored. There is a fine peal of eight in the tower, tenor about 26 cwt. In 1717, there being only six and one of which was cracked, they were re-cast and converted into the eight now in the tower, in the key of E flat, by, I believe, Briant, of Hertford. I cannot, Mr. Editor, boast of my ringing abilities, because I began to handle a bell-rope forty years too late, but I take an interest in anything connected with the village in which I spent my young days. My object in writing is that I think the Oxford Diocesan Guild have a fine field to extend their labours in the art of change-ringing. Take Banbury for instance, where there is a fine peal of eight for a centre. There are some fine peals within a radius of six miles, where there would be no lack of learners, or funds to pay instructors. I should like to hear the opinion of our Oxford friends on the subject."

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE Annual Supper of the ringers of the above church was held at Haden Cross, on Wednesday, January 4th, at which Mr. John Buffery, of Birmingham, was present. The evening was spent in music, and touches and tunes on the handbells. The report for the year 1887 is very gratifying, showing that much energy and perseverance have characterised the year's doings. In it was seen that the chief attainments are thirty-one 720s in the following methods: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble and Oxford Treble Bob, Place, College Single, Oxford Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure; and eight 360s in the first four, also courses of Double Stedman Slow Course and Superlative Surprise. On seven and eight bells five peals have been obtained, viz.: Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part and Day's six-part), 2; Union Triples (six-part from Shipway), 2; Bob Major (John Thorp's), 1. Courses or touches have been rung in Place, Stedman and Bob Triples, and in Grandsire, Bob, Duffield, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. The band accomplished their first 720 on August 11th, 1886, and the first 5040 (Bob method), on November 22nd, 1886. The band are always glad to have any strangers who can take part in the methods being rung.

HATHERSAGE, DERBYSHIRE.

The Hathersage United Handbell Ringers have just received a new set of handbells (fifty-one in number), manufactured by Mr. James Barwell, Great Hampton Street, Birmingham. They are excellent in tone and finish, and cannot be too highly commented upon. They have given the most entire satisfaction, being superior to the late set the above ringers have been used to. Mr. Barwell cannot be too highly praised for the excellent style in which he executes his work.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS AT QUEX PARK.

On Saturday December 31st, the members of the Quex Park band met as usual at the Waterloo Tower to ring the old year out and welcome the new one. The new year was ushered in by a touch of Grandsire Triples, 572 changes. A. Pointer, 1; C. Willshire, 2; G. Willshire, 3; T. B. Reed, 4; T. B. Reed, 5; L. Willshire (conductor), 6; J. J. Bristow, 7; E. Golder, 8. Before dispersing the band was entertained to refreshments by H. H. Powell Cotton, Esq., Owing to New Year's Day falling on a Sunday, the annual dinner given by the above named gentleman took place on Monday, January 2nd, at the "Powell Arms." The band again mustered at the tower about one o'clock on Monday, where they were photographed in group by Percy Cotton, Esq. Afterwards ringing was commenced by a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples (712 changes), being the last part of Holt's Original. L. Willshire (conductor), 1; C. Willshire, 2; G. Willshire, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; T. B. Reed, 5; S. Jarman, 6; J. J. Bristow, 7; H. Wilson, 8. Some other touches of Triples were brought round in which the following took part: Messrs. A. Sayer, E. Tibble, F. Carroway, and W. Emptage (aged 72 years). A well-struck course of Grandsire Major was next rung, and a course of Grandsire Caters brought the ringing at the tower to a close. The party then adjourned to the "Powell Arms," where a substantial dinner was provided by Host Milgate, and which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Dinner being over, Mr. T. B. Reed was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. J. Bristow to the vice-chair. The Chairman, in a few well-chosen remarks, then proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Cotton and family, which was heartily responded to by all present. The handbells were then brought into use, and a course of Grandsire Major was rung by Messrs. E. Tibble, 1-2; L. Willshire, 3-4; C. Willshire, 5-6; S. Jarman, 7-8. The health of the Secretary (Mr. J. J. Bristow), and the Conductor (Mr. L. Willshire) was then given by the Chairman, which was heartily drunk by all. Mr. J. J. Bristow in responding said it gave him great pleasure to be amongst them that evening, and more than that to see the progress made by the band of late, and urged upon them to push ahead and not leave a stone unturned in the advancement of the art. Mr. L. Willshire in rising, thanked the company for the way in which they had drank his health, and urged upon the members to meet for practice so as to go in more for Caters, and said if they would ring it he would guarantee to call a peal in three months. A song, "Oh Sophia," was next given by Mr. H. Wilson, to the great amusement of all present. A course of Grandsire Caters was then rung. E. Tibble, 1-2; L. Willshire, 3-4; S. Jarman, 5-6; C. Willshire, 7-8; G. Willshire, 9-10. Mr. E. Golder then proposed the health of Mr. P. A. Reed, a former member, who is now away in America, which was heartily drank with good wishes. Some more songs and toasts being given by different members of the band, and some touches of Triples, Caters and Major in which Messsrs. T. B. Reed, jun., T. B. Reed, senr., J. J. Bristow and E. Golder took part, brought closing time only too soon. After singing "God save the Queen," the company dispersed, having all thoroughly enjoyed themselves, thus ending one of the most pleasant evenings the band has spent.

JNO. J. BRISTOW.

LEWES, SUSSEX.

The last day of the old year falling on Saturday, the streets on New Year's Eve presented a lively appearance, and the Volunteer and Town Band played in various parts of the town. As usual, the new year was ushered in by the ringers at Southover church. Under the conductorship of Mr. E. C. Goldsmith, the bells were started a few minutes before twelve. Following the example of the Brighton ringers, they were rung the reverse way, starting with the tenor instead of the treble. This style was kept up until the clock struck twelve, when a merry peal was rung in the ordinary way. Mr. B. Burfield, the veteran ringer, again assisted. He is now eighty-six years of age, and has been connected with the bell-ringers at Southover church for no less than sixty-four years, and during that period has only on one occasion missed ringing in the new year. Another peal was rung early on Sunday morning.

BRADFORD PARISH CHURCH.

The members of this company had their annual supper at the meeting house, the "Ring of Bells," on Thursday evening, January 5th. After "bringing round" various courses of substantial and palatable viands, done up in a thoroughly satisfactory manner by mine host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fowlds, they were joined by a few friends, and set about having an evening's rational enjoyment. The chair was taken by Mr. B. T. Copley, the vice-chair by Mr. Broadley. After the loyal toast had been duly honoured, and that of the Vicar and Churchwardens,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to Change-Ringing," and in doing so referred to the improvement which had taken place in connection with the art in recent years: he also congratulated the Bradford company on the thoroughly satisfactory position in which the new year found them, and trusted that this pleasing condition of affairs would long continue.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN next proposed the health of the conductor, to which Mr. J. H. Hardcastle replied, making some very interesting and instructive observations on the mode of successful conducting.

The health of the new members was then proposed by Mr. Angus, and responded to by Mr. B. F. Lamb. The remaining toasts were "Our visiting and absent friends," responded to by Mr. F. London; "Our working officers," proposed by Mr. H. Raistrick, and responded to by Messrs. Brodley, Angus and Pollitt; "Our Steward, Mr. J. B. Jennings" who was unfortunately confined at home by sickness); and "the Chairman." Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent by all, and the hope was expressed that their gatherings would be more frequent in the future.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The Quarterly Meeting in connection with the above society was held on Saturday last at Bilston, when the following towns were represented: West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Wednesbury, Wombourn, Tipton, Tamworth, Perry Barr, Willenhall, and Darlaston. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Grandsire Major were rung, and an excellent address was delivered in the church by the Vicar (the Rev. C. Lee), after which a Committee Meeting was held in the vestry, when it was decided to hold the next meeting at Bloxwich, on Saturday, April 14th. A first-class tea was served at the Cocoa House, to which ample justice was done, and the company again adjourned to the tower for ringing.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingston-on Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, January 16th. The tea will be held at the Leopold Coffee Tavern at 6 o'clock precisely. Those who wish to be present are requested to send notice of their intention to the Manager, Leopold Coffee Tavern, Kingston-on-Thames, before Friday, the 13th inst., in order that proper provision may be made for them. The tea will be followed by the usual business meeting. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for the current year are due at this meeting.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held in Beauty Bank School-room, Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 21st, 1888, at 5 p.m. prompt. The Rev. H. Sherard, Vicar, has kindly consented to preside. All subscriptions due at this meeting, according to rule seven. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head. The Secretary will be pleased to know how many of each company will take tea not later than Wednesday, January 18th. The tower of St. Thomas' will be open for ringing during the afternoon.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
37, *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

RINGERS' DINNER AT BRIGHTON.

The Brighton (St. Nicholas) Society of change-ringers held their annual dinner at the "Morning Star," Church street, Brighton, on Tuesday, January 10th, and the gathering was attended by between twenty and thirty members and and friends. Mr. E. Tebbs occupied the chair, and Mr. J. Searle the vice-chair, and amongst those present were Messrs. G. F. Attree (secretary to the Sussex County Association), H. Boniface (Secretary), F. Cowley, W. Davey, J. Farrant, J. Fox, E. Hilder, Jay, Jesse Neves, James Neves, W. Palmer, T. H. Parnell, A. R. Roser, C. Tyler, W. F. Vernon, and H. Weston. The dinner was served in host Awcock's well-known style, and at its conclusion the toast of "The Queen and the rest of the Royal Family," was submitted from the chair and duly honoured.

The Secretary read letters from the Rev. Prebendary Hannah (late vicar of St. Nicholas), the Rev. E. Riley (formerly curate of St. Nicholas), Mr. C. Lynn, and Mr. Slarks, regretting their inability to attend, and also stated that other gentlemen whose names he mentioned were unable to be present through various causes. It was hoped that the company would have numbered about 35, but it seemed that many were at the last moment prevented from attending.

"The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" was proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by Mr. J. Searle and Mr. Jay.

Mr. G. F. Attree proposed "The health of our late vicar (Rev. Prebendary Hannah) and the Clergy of St. Nicholas. He said the Rev. J. J. Hannah had been known to them for many years, and it must be with regret that they parted with him as vicar of St. Nicholas, but as one connected with the parish church of St. Peter, he could safely say that they had there sustained a great gain. Although he had left them as Vicar of the old parish church he was now the Vicar of the new parish church, and they might depend still retained the greatest interest in their welfare.

"The Sussex County Association" was proposed by the Chairman, who said the suggestion that the society should be started was made in that very room some years ago. He understood it now numbered 600 members, and as it brought together so many change-ringers of the county and helped them in their work, it must be a very valuable Association.

Mr. G F. Attree, the Secretary, replied, and said the Association, for the year just closed, stood at the top of the tree as against all other Associations in the kingdom, with regard to the number of peals which had been rung. Their total number of peals last year was 70, and he might mention that no other Association had rung that number since change-ringing was started. Lately in "The Bell News," several remarks had been made with reference to the Sussex County Association, but he thought perhaps they would be better if they were passed in comparative silence. One or two paragraphs, however, had been rather amusing. He believed a certain amount of jealousy had sprung up, and they were told that they managed to tumble through a great many peals in one method. Now he thought they had rung through as many methods as any one Association in the kingdom, although they were not perhaps such advanced methods as by some other Associations. Still, they were only three years old against some other Associations which were twelve years old, but if they went on he thought they would be able to ring methods quite as advanced as any other Association at the present time. Again, they were told that they seemed to prefer quantity to quality, but it was amusing to read this, for he thought some other Society would be only too pleased to ring the quantity of peals, and he doubted not, of the quality too. He noticed that their London friends had gone in strongly for the same methods as themselves, and that the College Youths had rung more peals of Grandsire Triples than they had, although their total was smaller. They had rung 31 peals against their 30 in that method. Passing on, he said they must continue to work in unison with one another, and not be satisfied with what they had done in the past, but endeavour to do still more in the future. He hoped they would continue to maintain their position, not only as regarded quantity but quality also. The toast having heartily drunk,

Mr. G. F. Attree rose and presented the Society with an elegant and substantially bound album containing peals rung at the old Parish Church. He said he had been engaged for some time past in getting particulars of peals rung since the bells were hung 110 years ago, and had obtained records of thirty-seven peals. They had been bound together in the volume he now presented to the Society on their behalf, and he hoped that the book would be handed down to the ringers at the church for many years to come. The first peal recorded was the one rung when the bells were opened in 1777, and the last that rung on the 26th of last December.

Mr. Boniface, the Secretary, accepted the present on behalf of the Association, and suitably replied.

The Chairman proposed "The Brighton St. Nicholas Society of Change-ringers," and spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to see the unity which existed amongst them. He also complimented the ringers on the excellent manner in which they carried out their duties.

Mr. Boniface, the Secretary, replied, and in the course of his remarks stated that the members ot the Association had made 1,400 attendances during the year, although they were a small band numbering only sixteen. They were going on very prosperously, but the crowning point of the year's work, he thought, was the Jubilee peal, which was rung at a quarter past four o'clock in the morning, on the 21st June. Other complimentary toasts followed. Several capital songs were sung during the evening, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

A NEW METHOD.

We don't know whether the following account sent to us this week is intended as a huge joke or not:—

"St. Chad's, Lichfield.—On Wednesday, December 14th, 1887, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., a Grand Peal of Reservoir Surprise was rung by the following:—H. Meacham, 1; W. Bowler, 2; G. Smith, jun., 3; G. Smith, sen.. 4. The above was rung as a Jubilee peal before the close of 1887. Conductor, H. Meacham. Tenor 12 cwt. in Ab."

The method is unknown to us, and to many of our readers, no doubt, but the arduous task of the conductor may be imagined.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

The fine peal of bells in the church rang in the new year in a very joyous manner. It seems a pity such a fine peal of bells should number only five, as this confines the change-ringing to a minimum. Perhaps when other improvements now being made are finished, something may be done to provide a 6th bell for St. Deny's church. The tenor bell of this peal, when rung, and under favourable circumstances, can be distinctly heard at Lewes, a distance of eighteen miles.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "The Bell News and Ringers' Record."

Mr. H. Chandler and "Free Lance."

Sir,—I should like for the gentleman who wishes to know how I felt after having conducted the venerable Holt's ten-part peal three times in one week, that I was all right after the performance, or I should not have journeyed with my friend to Arundel, the distance of eighteen miles for the second peal that day. The idea of me calling it so many times, was that I intended to conduct it on all the bells before the year ended, but unfortunately was unable to do so.

The Gardens, Warnham Court. Henry E. Chandler.

A False Composition.

Sir,—The 5376 of Treble Bob Major in your last issue by Mr. E. Rostron, of Whitfield, is so absurdly false that it is difficult to judge if sent in seriousness or as a joke, if the latter, I fail to see any point in it. If the former, I should advise him before publishing his productions to submit them to someone with more experience than he evidently possesses. It is a pity your time and space should be taken up with such ridiculous attempts. I make these remarks without malice, and hope to see something better in the future from him.

Samuel Marsh.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—DEDICATION AND RE-OPENING OF THE TWO NEW TREBLES.

On Saturday, December 31st, the local company met at 6 p.m. and rang a deeply-muffled touch on the twelve bells, consisting of the whole pull and stand, rounds and set changes, also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. And for the dedication service at 7 p.m., a 112 and 42 in the same method. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; D. Marment, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. The ringers attended divine service, where special hymns, prayers, and lessons were used, the Rev. A. Glover, the Rev. Hollywell Geare, and the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Leddon) officiating. The vicar preached a most eloquent sermon, basing his remarks on the inscription on the new treble bell, after which, while the congregation where leaving the church, some plain leads were rang on the back ten. The ringers then adjourned to the vicarage to partake of their annual dinner kindly given by the vicar, Mr. Glover, Mr. Geare, and Mr. F. Savory, churchwarden, being also present. A most excellent repast was gone through, several course-ends being scored before it was finished. The health of the vicar was then drunk with musical honours. Mr. Savory and Mr. Hale thanked the vicar for his kindness to the ringers in giving the two trebles to make the peal complete, also for refitting the belfry with gas, a new table, a set of ropes, and shutters to deaden the sound when illness was close at hand. The handbells were then brought into use, and two courses of Grandsire Triples and one of Doubles was rung by T. Wright, 1-2; W. Ryland, 3; A. Gwinnett, 4; W. Hale, 5-6; G. Smith, 7-8. Some tunes were also rung. The tower was again visited, and a muffled touch was rung on the twelve for a few minutes. The muffles were then taken off, and at 10 minutes to 12 the bells were rung open, ushering in the new year with a merry peal. Afterwards a 448 of Triples was rung, standing as before, with J. Everett, 6; and J. Powell, 8. And on Sunday, January 1st, a 350 of Grandsire Triples was rung for divine service at 11 a.m., standing as before with 9-8-10 covering. And for Divine Service at 3 p.m. a 503 of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; D. Marment, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also on Monday, January 2nd, the local company rang the first three parts of Holt's ten-part peal, 1554 changes, on the front eight in 1 hr. 1 min, that being the longest length on the new bells and also by the local company. A. Trigg, 1: A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5: D. Marment, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also two courses with Charles West (aged 15) on the 4th.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NOTICE.—The first meeting of the Macclesfield branch of the above Guild will be held in St. Michael's choir vestry on Saturday, January 14th, at 3.30 p.m., to elect a Chairman and a representative from each band to form a Committee, and to elect members, besides other important matters. It is hoped that all will be present. After the meeting a tea will be held at a moderate figure, at the "Black Horse" Inn, and those who intend having tea must inform the undersigned on or before January 10th. WILLIAM WALMSLEY,

Gurnett, near Macclesfield. *Local Sec. and Treasurer.*

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Selly Oak, Worcestershire, on Saturday, January 21st. Members are requested to be in time for commencement of business meeting, if not in time for tower, so that the vote of every one may be recorded in the election of the officials for the ensuing year. Through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. C. Price, the tower of St. Mary's will be open during the afternoon. Business meeting at the "Royal Oak" at 6.30. Members not having remitted subscriptions for current year may do so not later than the 20th, otherwise their names will be struck off the register, as they will be considered to have left the Association.

JOHN WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

Crump's Cottages, Silver Street, Birmingham.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A trial of skill in the art of change-ringing on eight bells will take place at St. Thomas's church, Leesfield, Lees, on Saturday, January 21st, when the Association Cup will be competed for (according to the terms stated in the last Annual Report), and two other prizes given, namely: 2nd prize: eight silk pocket handkerchiefs, with figured bells and ringing mottoes woven in, by Edward Matthews, of Macclesfield, given by the Leesfield ringers. 3rd prize: Eight walking sticks of exquisite design and workmanship, given by a few friends. The draw for priority of ringing will take place at the undermentioned house at 12 o'clock. This competition is for members only. The annual dinner and meeting will take place on the same day at the house of Mr. William Taylor, "Devonshire Arms," Lees, near Oldham. Dinner at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those intending being present at dinner must signify the same to host Taylor on or before Thursday, January 19th. Members are notified that the annual subscription is due at this meeting. This notice will be considered sufficient.

P.S.—Each company will be allowed to ring a plain course previous to the touch about to be rung for the cup, and not ninety-six changes, as stated in error in the 7th rule of the society's circulars. JAMES S. WILDE, *Hon. Sec.*

MEETING OF RINGERS AT CAMBRIDGE.

To celebrate the centenary of the long peal of Bob Maximus rung at Great St. Mary's, on January 21st, 1788, ringers are invited to a attend a meeting to be held on Saturday, January 21st, 1888, at Cambridge. The Cambridge towers will be open for ringing during the day, and dinner will be at the Bath Hotel, Benet Street, at 2 p.m. There will be a meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association at Cambridge on the same day, at which all members of that Association are earnestly requested to attend, to consider the position of the Society. Those ringers who intend to be present are requested to send notice not later than January 17th, 1888. M. C. POTTER.

17, *Fitzwilliam Street, Cambridge.*

RINGER'S SUPPER AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

ON Tuesday evening, January 3rd, the St. Peter's Society and a few friends sat down to an excellent repast at the "Hibernia Inn," Stafford Street. The supper was provided at the expense of the Host, Mr. T. Kean. After the removal of the cloth Mr. J. Harper was voted to the chair. The health of the "Queen," "The Host and Hostess," "Rector and Churchwardens," and the "Visitors," were heartily drunk.

Mr. KEAN responded in a few well-chosen remarks, saying he hoped it was not the last time they would meet on such an occasion, and wished the St. Peter's Society every success. The rest of the evening was devoted to social conversation and harmony.

ST. MARY'S, DISS, NORFOLK.

THE Fifty-fifth anniversary of these bells was held on Friday, January 6th, when ringers from Eye, Banham, Kenninghall, and Aylsham attended and enjoyed a pull on its fine ring. At 2.30 the ringers sat down to a substantial dinner at the "Dolphin Inn," provided by Host Reeve, the Rev. A. A. Wilkinson, the esteemed curate of the parish, presiding. The healths of "The Queen," "Chairman and Vice-chairman" were duly honoured, and some good ringing in Oxford was done during the afternoon and evening.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Members are requested to attend the Meeting at St. Saviour's, on Tuesday evening next, the 17th inst., as some important business will be brought forward. The Secretary would also be glad to receive the address of W. H. Thompson, of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, the author of "Notes on Grandsire Triples." RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

40, *Lillington Street, Pimlico, S. W.*

TWO PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURRISE MAJOR.

5184.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
6 5 4 3 2		–	–	–
4 6 5 3 2				–
2 5 6 3 4		–		–
6 2 5 3 4				–
5 6 2 3 4				–
4 2 6 3 5		–		–
6 4 2 3 5				–
2 3 6 4 5			–	–
6 2 3 4 5				–
3 6 2 4 5				–
3 6 4 5 2	–			–
4 3 6 5 2				–
3 5 4 2 6	–			
4 2 3 5 6			–	–
5 4 3 2 6			–	
3 2 5 4 6			–	–
4 3 5 2 6			–	
5 2 4 3 6			–	–
4 5 2 3 6				–
2 4 5 3 6				–
5 3 2 4 6			–	–
2 5 3 4 6				–
3 4 2 5 6			–	–
2 3 4 5 6				–

This peal has the 6th its extent home in the last twelve courses, and is the third series yet produced, the first two series being published by Mr. Thorp and Mr. Dains respectively. The reverse calling may be used in the whole, and all are brought round from one course-end, viz.: 4 3 6 5 2

5056.

2 4 3 6 5	B	M	W	H
4 5 2 3 6			–	–
2 4 5 3 6				–
6 5 4 3 2		–		–
6 5 3 2 4	–			–
3 6 5 2 4				–
5 3 6 2 4				–
6 2 5 3 4			–	–
5 6 2 3 4				–
2 3 5 6 4			–	–
5 2 3 6 4				–
4 6 3 2 5		–	–	–
3 4 6 2 5				–
6 2 3 4 5			–	–
3 6 2 4 5				–
2 3 6 4 5				–
6 4 2 3 5			–	–
5 2 4 3 6		–		–
4 3 5 2 6			–	–
5 4 3 2 6				–
3 5 4 2 6				–
4 2 3 5 6			–	–
3 4 2 5 6				–
2 3 4 5 6				–

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th consecutively in 6th's place in the last twenty courses, and is the first published on this plan

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1888.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 1 3 5 4 7 6
2 3 1 4 5 6 7
3 2 4 1 6 5 7
3 4 2 6 1 7 5
4 3 6 2 7 1 5
4 6 3 7 2 1 5
6 4 7 3 1 2 5
6 7 4 1 3 5 2
7 6 1 4 5 3 2
7 1 6 5 4 2 3
1 7 5 6 2 4 3
1 5 7 2 6 3 4

First lead

3 4 5 2 6 7	2
6 7 3 5 2 4	2
4 5 6 2 7 3	1
6 7 4 5 3 2	3
2 5 6 3 7 4	1
7 4 2 6 3 5	2
5 6 7 3 4 2	1
7 4 5 6 2 3	3
3 6 7 2 4 5	1
6 7 3 2 4 5	4
5 2 6 4 7 3	1
6 7 5 2 3 4	3
4 2 6 3 7 5	1
7 5 4 6 3 2	2
2 6 7 3 5 4	1
7 5 2 6 4 3	3
3 6 7 4 5 2	1
6 7 3 4 5 2	4
2 4 6 5 7 3	1
6 7 2 4 3 5	3
5 4 6 3 7 2	1
7 2 5 6 3 4	2
4 6 7 3 2 5	1
6 7 4 3 2 5	4
7 4 6 3 2 5	4
5 3 7 2 4 6	1
4 6 5 7 2 3	2
3 7 4 2 6 5	1
2 7 3 5 4 6	5
4 6 2 3 5 7	2
7 3 4 5 6 2	1
6 2 7 4 5 3	2
3 4 6 5 2 7	1
4 6 3 5 2 7	4
5 7 4 2 6 3	1 s
2 7 5 3 4 6	5
4 6 2 5 3 7	2
7 5 4 3 6 2	1
3 5 7 2 4 6	5
6 2 3 4 5 7	1
3 5 6 2 7 4	3
2 5 3 4 6 7	5
6 7 2 3 4 5	2
5 3 6 4 7 2	1
4 3 5 2 6 7	5
3 5 4 2 6 7	4
6 7 3 4 2 5	2
5 4 6 2 7 3	1
2 4 5 3 6 7	5
4 5 2 3 6 7	4
6 7 4 2 3 5	2
5 2 6 3 7 4	1
6 7 5 2 4 3	3
3 2 6 4 7 5	1
4 2 3 5 6 7	5
2 3 4 5 6 7	4

This touch contains the Queen's, Tittums, and Whittington's and the twenty-four 6-7's.

[See note at top of next column.]

The foregoing touch is composed instead of the one published on December 10th, which I am sorry to say turned out to be false in the first lead. I make my humble apologies to gentlemen who have rung the former one.

JOHN CARTER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5125.

By THOMAS HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6	
*4 2 3 5 6	
3 4 2 5 6	8 in four
2 3 4 5 6	8 in four
3 5 4 2 6	11 in four
5 2 4 3 6	11 in four
4 5 2 3 6	8 in four
2 4 5 3 6	8 in four
4 3 5 2 6	11 in four
3 2 5 4 6	11 in four
5 3 2 4 6	8 in four
2 5 3 4 6	8 in four
5 4 3 2 6	11 in four.

These twelve courses repeated with the exception of calling first course 11th in with three, produces—

5 6 4 2 3	
3 2 6 5 4	11th in 3
6 3 2 5 4	8 in four
3 5 2 6 4	11 in four
2 3 5 6 4	8 in four
4 6 3 2 5	11 in three
3 4 6 2 5	8 in four
6 3 4 2 5	8 in four
3 2 4 6 5	11 in four
4 3 2 6 5	8 in four
3 6 2 4 5	11 in four
2 3 6 4 5	8 in four
6 2 3 4 5	8 in four

Round by calling the 11th in and out at 2.

*Produced with calls at 1 B, 5 s, 10 s, 13 s.

The above was rung at Sheffield, on October 6th, 1887, and was conducted by its composer.

TWO DATE TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6			1	2
3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2
5 3 6 2 4		–	2	2
2 5 3 4 6	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	2	2

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 2 6 5 4	2			2
2 4 6 5 3	2	–	1	2
5 2 4 3 6	2		2	2
5 4 3 2 6	1	–	2	2
2 3 4 5 6			2	2

This touch has the 5th and 6th three course-ends at home with nine of the 8-6's.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6*s.* 6*d.*
" 6 " .. .. 3*s.* 3*d.*
" 3 " .. .. 1*s.* 8*d.*

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

BACKSTROKE.—Apply to a bell-founder.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1888.

The Provinces.

STEYNING, SUSSEX,
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)
Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1887, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 **CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**
Being 720 of each of the following:—
DOUBLE OXFORD, KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE COURT, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, AND PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 12 cwt.

F. MORRIS .. ..*Treble.*	G. SMART .. .. 4.
G. GATLAND.. .. .. .. 2.	J. WOOLGAR .. .. .. 5.
C. CHAMBERS .. .. .. 3.	C. TYLER .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Gatland, the Captain of the Steyning Society.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, December 28, 1887, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 **CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**
Being a 720 of each of the following:—
OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, OXFORD SINGLE BOB COLLEGE SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, AND CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

C. TYLER .. ..*Treble.*	E. BRACKLEY .. .. .. 4.
F. HARDING .. .. 2.	G. GATLAND .. .. .. 5.
C. CHAMBERS .. .. .. 3.	G. SMART.. .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by G. SMART.

Mr. F. Harding hails from Eastbourne, and the above is his first 5040 on six bells.

CORRECTIONS.—The peal of Treble Bob Royal, on the 31st ulto, at Ipswich, was rung in 3 hrs. 37 mins., not 3 hrs. 27 mins.—With reference to Mr. Washbrook's peal, noticed last week by Mr. Thomas, of Birmingham, the composer says: "The first, second, and fifth courses should each be '7-8 with s.' The s in the fourth course should be omitted, and the number is 5021."—The peal rang at Sproughton on the 17th ulto. on handbells, had the 6th the extent at home, with the homes full, not "the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right."

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)

On Friday, December 30, 1887, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 **CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**
Being a 720 of each of the following:—
WOODBINE, DOUBLE OXFORD, KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE COURT, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, AND COLLEGE SINGLE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

T. SEARLE .. ..*Treble.*	G. GATLAND .. .. .. 4.
G. SMART .. .. 2.	J. WOOLGAR .. .. .. 5.
C. CHAMBERS.. .. .. .. 3.	C. TYLER.. .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 **CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS:**
Being a 720 of each of the following:—
DOUBLE OXFORD, KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE COURT, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, PLAIN BOB, AND CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

F. MORRIS .. ..*Treble.*	G. GATLAND .. .. .. 4.
E. BRACKLEY .. .. .. 2.	G. SMART .. .. 5.
C. CHAMBERS .. .. .. 3.	C. TYLER .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

WORTH, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE WORTH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 **CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**
Being a 720 each of the following:—
YORKSHIRE COURT, KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, PLAIN BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, AND OXFORD SINGLE BOB.

Tenor 8¾ cwt.

B. PAYNE .. ..*Treble.*	H. MEADS .. .. 4.
W. DENMAN .. .. .. 2.	G. ILLMAN .. .. 5.
F. RICE .. .. 3.	E. STREETER .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by E. STREETER.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 31, 1887, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH .. .. ..*Treble.*	GEORGE MOBBS.. .. .. 5.
W. H. READ, ESQ. .. .. 2.	HERBERT FAIRHEAD .. 6.
WILLIAM FORD*.. .. .. 3.	JAMES SOUTER .. .. .. 7.
CHARLES CANDLER, ESQ... 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

* First peal. For figures of this peal see "THE BELL NEWS," April 29th, 1882. This being the club night at Redenhall, the first Saturday after the full moon, the company thought it a good chance to ring the old year out and the new one in, which they did with a right good peal; they started at 9 o'clock, and the bells came round at 12.13, January, 1888.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Wednesday, January 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in G♯.

ARTHUR J. PLOWMAN,*	*Treble.*	JOHN PLOWMAN	5.
EDGAR BENNETT	2.	CHARLES BANCE	6.
CHARLES MARTIN	3.	WILLIAM BURKIN	7.
CHARLES E. MALIM	4.	HENRY BROOKS	*..Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN PLOWMAN.

*Age 15 years. The above was rung to commemorate the 63rd birthday of H. Brooks. Arthur J. Plowman was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

WOODFORD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Thursday, January 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN FOURTEEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS;

Being three 6-scores each of the following :—

Reading Doubles, The Chase, St. Dunstan's Doubles, The Dream, London Doubles, New Doubles, Place, Morning Delight, St. Simon's Doubles, Stedman's Slow Course, St. Clement's Doubles, Canterbury Pleasure, Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor 20 cwt.

BENJAMIN GREEN	*Treble.*	T. WILSON	3.
W. J. GILBERT	2.	J. BUNNING	4.
B. MEADOWS	*Tenor.*		

Conducted by B. MEADOWS.

This is the greatest number rung on the bells since they were re-hung.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, January 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 42 cwt.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW	*Treble.*	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	5.
CHARLES TOLLEY	2.	THOMAS PAYNE	6.
ALFRED BROWNING	3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	7.
WILLIAM SMITH	4.	GEORGE TOLLEY	*..Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

G. Tolley hails from Headington, Oxon. This peal was rung to celebrate the 55th birthday of the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

On Monday, January 9, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

WILLIAM TAYLOR	*Treble.*	ALBERT LINCOLN	5.
ALLEN G. RODWELL	2.	TOM STAULKEY	6.
FREDERICK WILSON	3.	GABRIEL LINDOFF	7.
HARRY BUTTON	4.	JOHN FLEGG	*..Tenor.*

Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

G. Lindoff belongs to the Kent County Association.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22¾ cwt.

A. BRINDLEY	*Treble.*	H. PAGE	5.
H. BAILEY	2.	W. B. ALLISON	6.
A. PENNINGTON	3.	J. AUSTIN	7.
S. CHURTON	4.	T. ROSE	*..Tenor.*

Conducted by H. PAGE.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the first peal by all except H. Page and W. B. Allison.

DEWSBURY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GARFORTH TAYLOR	*Treble.*	*JAMES A. IDLE	5.
WALTER IDLE	2.	GEORGE H. HARDY	6.
WILLIAM AINLEY	3.	WALTER BYROM	7.
ISAAC IDLE	4.	DAVID STEPHENSON	*..Tenor.*

Composed by G. H. HARDY, and Conducted by J. A. IDLE.

The above peal was rung to celebrate the 23rd birthday of Walter Idle, the ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. First peal in the method by all. *First peal as conductor. Messrs. I. Idle, Byrom, Taylor and Hardy hail from Earlsheaton; Stephenson from Ossett; the rest belong to Dewsbury.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, January 9, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

HARRY MILLS	*Treble.*	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT	5.
GEORGE HUGHES	2.	SAMUEL JESSON	6.
ADAM HILL	3.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ..	7.
THOMAS HORTON	4.	BEMJAMIN STARKY	*..Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

Previous to the start William Micklewright, who hails from Dudley, was made a member of the above Association. Thomas Horton hails from West Bromwich, the rest belong to the local company,

Miscellaneous.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; R. Jarvis, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; G. Skeef, 7; E. Jarvis, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Sunday, January 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a date touch of 1888 changes of Grandsire Caters. F. A. Underwood, 1; A. Cresser, 2; A. R. Aldham, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; W. A. Tyler, 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; W. T. Billinghurst, 10. Composed by John T. Hollis.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 1st, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Rollison, 1; E. Willoughby, 2; H. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; W. Avann, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Lewis, 7; T. Hart, 8.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—On Tuesday, January 10th, at St. Giles' church, a date touch (1887 changes), of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins. F. H. Knights, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Moy, 3; W. Bales, 4; A. Neale, 5; F. Knights (conductor), 6; J. Skinner, 7; G. Smith, 8. Composed by S. Marsh, West Bromwich. Neale and Moy hail from Aylsham.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday evening, January 8th, at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Hares, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. Frisby, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Timms, 7; R. Hall, 8; C. Price, 9; H. Hipkiss, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham.

THE YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

SADDLEWORTH.—On Friday, January 6th, at St. Chad's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. J. Brierley (conductor), 1; J. Radcliffe, 2; E. Buckley, 3; J. H. Shaw, 4; J. L. Buckley, 5; James Radcliffe, 6; J. Wood, 7; E. Wood, 8. Composed by the late William Harrison.

HUNTLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, January 5th, at the parish church, six of the local company rang a date touch of Grandsire Doubles. H. Hatch, 1; E. Turnbull, 2; S. James, 3; C. Turner (conductor), 4; H. Ancill, 5; F. Marshall, 6. Time 55 mins.

LISCARD (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 20 mins. E. Coley, 1; R. S. Mann, 2; H. Coley, 3; C. Smith, 4; G. Fisher, 5; J. R. Pritchard (composer and conductor), 6; W. Davies, 7; T. Hammond, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Wensley Terence Jacob, son of W. T. Jacob, Esq., J.P., of Liscard, who died at Calcutta on New Year's Day. C. Smith hails from Loughborough, the remainder from Liverpool.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—On Thursday, January 5th, at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), in the following methods; 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Grandsire Minor, and 48 Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 7 mins. C. Smith, 1; H. Button, 2; F. Wilson, 3; H. Lincoln, 4; T. Shearing, 5; G. Lindoff (conductor), 6. C. Smith belongs to the local company, the rest belong to the St. Margaret's society, Leiston.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Saturday evening, December 31st, at the parish church, a date touch (1887 changes), in the following fifteen methods: New Doubles, St. Simon's, St. Clement's, Stedman's Slow Course, Penelope, Canterbury Doubles, St. Dunstan's, Dream, Hudibras, Calendar, Antelope, Grandsire, Sunshine, Hempstead Delight, and Plain Doubles. W. Emery, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. T. Barker (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; E. Claydon, 5.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, December 27th, at the Cathedral, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Caters (5007 changes), but after ringing 1 hr., the tenor clapper came out and brought it to an untimely end. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; W. Bennett, 2; F. Williamson, 3; W. Baston, 4; A. Browning, 5; G. Holifield, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; W. Finch, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; W. Jeffery and E. A. Hind, 10. Tenor 42 cwt.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Thursday, December 29th, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing fifty-one courses in 2½ hrs., the tenor man was taken ill and had to stand. J. Payne, 1; J. W. Washbrok (conductor), 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; A. Browning, 5; W. Napper, 6; E. E. Napper, 7; J. West, 8.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday evening, January 8th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; C. Page, 3; A. Bunce, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Saturday, December 31st, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Baddeley (conductor), 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STROUD.—On Tuesday evening, January 3rd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; J. Nash, 2; A. J. Gwinnett, 3; C. King, 4; G. Latham (conductor), 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8.

PAINSWICK.—On Friday evening, January 6th, at the parish church, 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; D. Marment, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, January 6th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; *W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; †W. J. Piper, 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell. †First 720 in the method. Also 720 Double Court Bob Minor. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; *A. Edwards, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. *First 720 in the method.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 8th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 600 Oxford Treble Bob in 20 mins. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; W. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also 360 College Exercise, with T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; the rest as before.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Thursday, December 29th, 360 Bob Minor. E. Green, 1; T. Aldis, 2; D. Huff, 3; H. Peachey, 4; C. Ramplin, (conductor), 5; G. Knock, 6; W. Easter, 7; covering. On New Year's Eve, with 6-8 covering, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles. E. Green, 1; C. Ramplin, 2; —. Aldis, 3; D. Huff, 4; W. Green, 5; —. Knight, 6; G. Knock, 7; W. Easter, 8. And at midnight, 168 Grandsire Triples. —. Knight, 1; E. Green, 2; —. Aldis, 3; D. Huff, 4; H. Peachey, 5; C. Ramplin, 6; W. Easter, 7; G. Knock, 8. On Sunday, January 1st, 360 Bob Minor. G. Barclay, 1; —. Brewster, 2; —. Huff, 3; H. Peachey, 4; W. Green, 5; G. Knock, 6; W. Easter (conductor), 7. On Thursday, January 5th, 518 Grandsire Triples. —. Knight, 1; W. Easter (conductor), 2; —. Aldis, 3; D. Huff, 4; W. Green, 5; —. Ramplin, 6; —. Knock, 7; G. Barclay, 8. And 168. G. Barclay, 2; W. Easter, 8; the others standing as before. And 240 Bob Major. —. Brewster, 1; W. Green, 2; —. Aldis, 3; D. Huff, 4; H. Peachey, 5; C. Ramplin, 6; —. Easter, 7; —. Knock, 8.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On the feast of Epiphany, Friday, January 6th, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, at St. Thomas's church, in 48 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Blackbourn, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Db.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER.—On Sunday morning, January 8th, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's church, 210 Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Also 420 Stedman Triples. F. Shepherd, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; C. Carter, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), taken from Brook's peal, in 44 mins. F. Shepherd (conductor), 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Lake, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—The old custom of ushering in the Christmas morning was observed as usual. The band met at 6 o'clock and rang a touch of Bob Major (1056 changes). On Wednesday, December 28th, a touch of 960 Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by E. Ruck, sen. On Saturday, December 31st, a touch of 912 Bob Major, conducted by E. Ruck, sen. On Saturday, January 7th, 1036 Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Ruck, sen. The following took part in the ringing: E. Ruck, sen. and jun., D. Paine, G. Paine, W. Jay, E. Gower, F. Finn, E. Finn, and S. Finn.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, January 10th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. S. Tipple, 1; J. Allen, 2; F. Hayes, 3; J. W. Aitkin, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

FRINDSBURY, NEAR ROCHESTER.—On Friday evening, January 6th, at All Saints' church, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. A. Ring, 1; E. Collard, 2; G. Chantler, 3; G. Hutchings, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. G. Chantler hails from St. Margaret's, Rochester, and this is his first touch of Doubles.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Thursday, January 5th, 126 Grandsire Caters. H. Button, 1-2; A. Lincoln, 3-4; G. Lindoff, 5-6; T. Shearing, 7-8; F. Wilson, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1-2; G. Lindoff, 3-4; T. Shearing, 5-6; F. Wilson, 7-8.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, January 4th, for practice at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each called differently, in 24 mins. J. Elcox, 1; J. Reynalls, 2; J. Griffiths, 3; C. Beaman (conductor), 4; W. Martin, 5; F. Hinton, 6.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 433 of Stedman Caters. E. Bennett (conductor), 1; J. Branch, 2; J. Plowman, 3; C. Bance, 4; W. Burkin, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Fayers, 7; G. Wellings, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Hartley, 10. Also for afternoon service 448 of Bob Major, and 420 of Bob Triples for evening service. On New Year's Day, for morning service, 531 of Stedman Caters. E. Bennett (conductor) 1; J. Branch, 2; G. Wellings, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 5; J. Plowman, 6; J. Fayers, 7; C. Bance, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Hartley, 10. On Sunday, January 8th (the Bishop Winchester preaching the sermon), 575 of Grandsire Caters. J. Plowman, jun., 1; W. Burkin, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Plowman, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. Trappitt, 6; G. Wellings, 7; C. Bance, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Hartley, 10.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, December 31st, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Hutton (late of Banham), 1: G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; E. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith (first 720), 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on handbells, 120 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Hinchley, 1-2; J. Hilling, 3; G. Smith, 4; R. Hutton, 5-6. And on Sunday evening, January 1st, after Divine Service, two 120's of Bob Doubles. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; E. Dunnett, 4; J. Hinchley, 5. Also on Wednesday, January 4th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen.. 2; J. Hilling, 3; E. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Hinchley, 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 6; the others as before.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Saturday evening, January 7th, at the church of the Holy Trinity, on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. W. J. Cook, 1; W. Badwell, 2; G. Conyard, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Harper, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. It was intended to go for a 6000, but two of the band not putting in appearance, the above was rung instead.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, January 1st, after the watch night service at St. Margaret's church, the local comyany rang the new year in with a 720 of Bob Minor. E. Raynor, 1; W. Tuffey, 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Osborne, 4; W. Barker (conductor), 5; A. Haigh, 6. Time 26½ mins.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Monday, December 26th, at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, and 840 of Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; H. Woolgar, 2; R. Jordan, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler, 5; E. Jordan, 6; C. Boxall (composer and conductor), 7; C. Dudley, 8. And on Sunday, January 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. H. Davidson, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; H. Boxall, jun., 5; G. T. Rickman, Esq., 6; C. Boxall (conductor), 7; C. Dudley, 8. G. T. Rickman, Esq. hails from Lewes. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—Recently, at All Saints' church, the All Saints, Fulham, Association, rang for practice 504 of Grandsire Caters. *J. G. Green, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; *F. W. Kelley, 3; *H. Gale, 4; A. H. Taberton, 4; J. W. Kelley (first as conductor), 6; C. F. Winny, 7; W. H. George, 8; C. H. Porter, 9; S. How, 10. *First touch of Caters.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, November 6th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Gleed, 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. Pittam, 5; A. Tennant, 6. And after evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; B. Foskett, 2; A. Pittam, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Also on Sunday, January 1st, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 24½ mins. T. Gleed, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; A. Pittam, 6. And on Monday evening, January 2nd, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. T. Gleed, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Tennant, 4; A. Pittam, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Also on Sunday morning, January 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. G. Thurlow, 1. A. Tennant, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Pittam, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; J. Nixon, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

KEYSTONE (Huntingdonshire).—On Tuesday December 27th four members of the Woodford company paid a visit to the above place, where they met Mr. R. Dunkley, of Bythorn, and by the kind permission of the Rector they were allowed the use of the bells, 6-score of New Doubles, 6-score of St. Simon's, 6 score of Canterbury Pleasure, 6-score of Stedman Slow Course, and 6-score of Bob Doubles. B. Green, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; T. Wilson, 3; J. Bunning, 4; B. Meadows (conductor), 5. Also 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and 6-score of Bob Doubles. B. Green, 1; B. Meadows, 2; T. Wilson, 3; J. Bunning, 4; H. Twelvetrees (conductor), 5. After leaving Keystone, they called and had a touch at Raunds, where they rang a 6-score of Stedman's Principle. J. Bunning, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; T. Wilson, 4; B. Meadows, 5; W. J. Gilbert, 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford.

LANCASTER.—On Tuesday, January 10th, at the parish church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. R. S. Hirst (conductor), 1; W. Clayton, 2; R. Walker, 3; R. Smart, 4; H. Wilcock, 5; W. H. Hirst, 6; T. J. Parker, 7; W. Jackson, 8.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, January 5th, at the Cathedral church of St. Peter's, eight members of the Liverpool Youths started for Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, when in the tenth part, the ringer of the second wished the bells to be called round, which was done at the half-way, after ringing 1 hr. 37 mins. Richard Williams, 1; W. Davies, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; C. Williams, 4; W. Booth, 5; T. Hammond, 6; Robert Williams (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. **Tenor 25 cwt.**

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, January 5th, at the church of St. Bartholomew, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover (conductor) 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. Baddeley, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 7th, for evening service, at St. Thomas', Moorside, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (Reeves's), in 1 hr. and 28 mins. A. Butterworth, 1; T. Greenwood, Wm. Pitman, 3; Joseph Street, 4; Jos. Taylor, 5; Wm. Sutcliffe, 6; T. Barratt, 7; L. Hampson, 8.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, December 18th, at St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; A. Browning, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; W. Baston, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; G. Tolley, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 20th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; A. E. Hind 3; P. A. Hind, 4; T. Payne, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, December 24th, 720 Oxford Bob. C. Sprawson, 1; W. Baston, 2; C. Tolley, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; A. E. Hind, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on December 25th, at St. Peter's in-the-East, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Baston (conductor), 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; W. Jeffery, 4; W. Finch, 5; A. E. Hind, 6. Also on Saturday, December 31st, at St Thomas-ye-Martyr, 720 Plain Bob. C. Sprawson, 1; A. E. Hind, 2; C. Tolley, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

PETERBOROUGH.—At the ringing in of the New Year at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Willerton, 1; C. Matthews, 2; S. English, 3; R. Beeson, 4; C. Brice, 5; *W. T. Johnson (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. Tenor 8 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Wednesday, January 4th, at St. Martin's church, a 1512 of Grandsire Triples, in 53 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; H. O. Dowling, 8. This was rung after an unsuccessful attempt at a peal for Mr. Dowling, who was here on a visit from Texas, U. S. A. On Friday, January 6th, at S. Thomas's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. E. Tydeman, A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Blackbourn, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Saturday evening, December 24th, at the parish church, an attempt made to ring a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, bnt came to grief after ringing 504 changes. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. Pleasance, 4; N. W. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. And for early service on Christmas Day, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Also for service at 11 o'clock, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Rochester (conductor), 1: A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; N. W. Tarling, 7; P. Springham, 8. And on Thursday, December 29th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 49 mins. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; W. Morris, 3; W. Pleasance, 4; *J. Tarling, 5; H. Saban, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Also for service on New Year's Eve, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's), in 48 mins. G. Rochester, 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; W. Morris, 4; *H. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. And 167 Grandsire Triples. G. Rochester, 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; W. Morris, 4; F. W. Tarling, 5; H. Prior, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; P. Springham, 8. Also for morning service on New Year's Day, 504 Stedman Triples. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Monday, January 2nd, being an annual ringing day of the Sawbridgeworth company, several touches of Bob Major, Stedman, Grandsire, and Treble Bob, were rung in the afternoon by the local company, assisted by the Messrs. Prior (3), and Luckey, of Stanstead, Essex. H. J. Tucker hails from Bishop's Stortford. *First quarter-peal in the method.

SHREWSBURY.—On New Year's Eve, at St. Chad's church, six courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Bratton, 5; E. H. Morris, 6; G. Tinsley, 7; T. Burd (conductor), 8; J. Groves, 9; T. Groves, 10; A. Griffiths, 11; J. Blount, 12. And on the opening of the New Year, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. Bratton, 5; J. Groves, 6; G. Tinsley, 7; C. Lane, 8; T. Burd (conductor), 9; E. H. Morris, 10; T. Groves, 11; A. Griffiths, 12. Tenor 41 cwt. in C. Also on Sunday morning, January 1st, at St. Julian's church, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. Bratton, 1; J. Groves, 2; G. Tinsley, 3; T. Burd (conductor), 4; T. Groves, 5; E. H. Morris, 6. **Tenor 16 cwt. in F.**

ST. ALBANS.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, December 7th, at 4, St. Peter's Street, a plain course of Grandsire Cinques. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; C. F. Winny, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8; W. H. L. Buckingham, 9-10; J. C. Mitchell, 11-12.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, January 7th, an attempt was made to ring the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it was lost within about 100 changes from home W. Davis, 1; C. Eddington, 2; G. Iles, 3; F. Symes, 4; F. Howell, 5; T. Alsopp, 6; W. Sevier (conductor). 7; J. Phillips, 8. W. Sevier was on a visit from Gloucester.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 8th, for evening service, at St. Martin's church, 1540 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 57 mins. H. Mill, 1; G. Hughes, 2; A. Hill, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; S. Jesson, 6; W. R. Small, 7; B. Starky, 8. Conducted by G. Hughes.

MEETING OF THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT MORTON.

The usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held here on the 7th inst. There was a great deal of ringing done during the day by the members of the Association and friends.

A shortened service was held in the church, the Rev. W. Stockdale, the vicar of the parish officiating. The address was delivered by the Rev. W. Layng, of Rippingale, who took for his text, i Cor. 10 ch. v. 31. From this text the rev. gentleman gave a most excellent address, pointing out the origin and uses of bells, their connection with religion, and between the ringers and the church.

After the service, dinner was provided, at which J. C. Lawrence, Q.C., M.P., took the chair, supported by the Vicar and Churchwardens of Morton, and several clergyman of the neighbourhood. Various toasts were proposed and drunk amid much enthusiasm. Some handbell ringing was performed, and then the business meeting was held, the Rev. J. T. Holland, of Wytham-on-the-Hill, in the chair. Minutes of of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and several new members were made, The next meeting of the Association is to be held at Wytham-on-the-Hill, on Easter Monday. This is certainly one of the most successful meetings that the South Lincolnshire Association has ever had, and it should do it a great deal of good in the immediate neighbourhood, as there are so many peals of bells and companies of ringers.

RINGERS' SUPPER.

ON Saturday last, January 7th, the members and wives of St. Andrew's society, Netherton, with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Micklewright of Dudley, partook of an excellent supper (which is now an annual one, through the kindness of Mr. Wm. Jordan, churchwarden) at the house of one of the ringers, Mr. Jas. Prestidge, and to which full justice was done. The cloth having been removed, a friendly chat was indulged in for some time, after which the evening was occupied with songs, recitations, flute solos, &c., by different members of the company. The best thanks of the company were given to Mr. and Mrs. Prestidge for their able catering. The singing of the National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

GOLDINGTON, NEAR BEDFORD.

A large Jubilee memorial clock has just been completed at the above place, which strikes the hours, and shows the time on one large dial. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work. The same firm are also making the large Jubilee memorial clock at Gravesend.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.

A very large clock and chimes has just been erected in the church tower here by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and the hours are struck with a 60lb. hammer. It has a double three-legged gravity escapement, and a very heavy compensated pendulum. Messrs. Smith have also just completed a similar clock at Myland church, near Colchester.

THE "JAMES RUDD" FUND.

Mr. Ireland wishes to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following sums towards this fund, and begs to state, in response to many of Rudd's friends, that the time for closing the fund is extended to the last of this month.

	s.	d.
Mr. Thos. Clark, Keldare villas, near Ripon	2	6
Mr. Sam Slater, Glemsford	1	0
The St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich (per Mr. I. S. Alexander), 14s.; and Mr. Dan Prentice, Ipswich, 1s.	15	0

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting was held at Colchester, on Saturday, January 7th, at which 38 members were present from Bentley, Bromley, Braintree, Coggeshall, Colchester, Dedham, Foxearth, Glemsford, Harwich, Kelvedon, Long Melford, Sawbridgeworth, West Ham, and Writtle. The belfry of St. Peter's church was placed at the disposal of the Association during the day, and the bells were kept going with short intervals from twelve to six or seven p.m., with touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Minor, a course of Stedman Triples being unsuccessfully attempted. They are a good ring of eight, tenor 20¾ cwt., cast in the year 1763, and on the whole go fairly well, but some fresh ropes and some overhauling of the frame and fittings would probably improve them for peal ringing. The tenor in particular went very stiff on Saturday last, and it would be hard work to ring her in through even a quarter-peal. Not much change-ringing has been done of late years in Colchester, nor has any interest in the art been taken by the clergy or other influential residents, so that it has been uphill work for the few young ringers who, under the auspices of Mr. D. Whitlock Scott, have now mastered Bob Minor, but cannot as yet muster a sufficient number for Triples or Major ringing. In a town of the size of Colchester there ought to be no difficulty, if proper support and encouragement were given in getting together a good band, and it may be hoped that the efforts now being made may be successful. The tower of St. Peter's was fitted some years ago by the exertions of a former churchwarden, Mr. Bunting, with Seage's apparatus, so that the instruction and practice of learners can be conducted without any annoyance to those who live close round the church.

As usual at these meetings, not much ringing worth record was done, a number of short touches, so that all present may take part, being more desirable than longer performances. Among those present who took part in touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, or Grandsire Triples, were the Messrs. Tarling (Sawbridgeworth), Slater (Glemsford), Sillitoe (Sudbury), Nichol (Coggeshall), Nevard (Great Bentley), S. and H. Hammond (Braintree), Elliott (Kelvedon), Bradley and Randall (West Ham), Scott (Long Melford), and Lincoln (Writtle). The hon. secretary, the Rev. T. L. Papillion, also took a rope in Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Bob Minor. A touch of Stedman Triples was attempted, but without success, two or three of the ringers not being sufficiently familiar with the method.

A meat tea was served at 4 p.m., at a neighbouring confectioner's (Banks, 19, Head Street), to which thirty-eight sat down, the chair being taken by the Hon. Secretary, supported by the Rev. J. F. Foster, of Foxearth. At the business meeting which followed, the report of the last meeting was read, and the following new members were elected. Honorary member: the Rev. J. G. Geare, rector of Farnham, Bishops Stortford. Ringing members: Messrs. W. Gridley, J. Lee, R. Mingay, G. Maxim and D. Ward, of Foxearth; J. Bird and P. C. S. Scott, Long Melford; O. T. Garwood and F. Wells, Glemsford; C. Sillitoe, Sudbury.

The names of the above were intended for proposal on October 8th, 1887, but did not reach the secretary in time, and it was resolved that their election do date from that day.

Also Messrs. A. Ambrose and H. Duce, Long Melford; W. Bedwell, Greenwich; G. Barclay, Harwich; W. Cooper, Halstead; W. Cooter, Bethnal Green; A. Bonnington and W. G. Dickens, Esq., Writtle; Jas. Davidson and A. Fox, Stamford Hill; J. Dillow, W. Dillow and W. White, Farnham; T. Gathard, Hatfield; C. Herbert, Woburn; S. Preston, St. Albans; W. Pye-English, J. Waghorn, sen., J. Waghorn, jun., Tottenham; Z. Slater, Glemsford. As probationers: G. Milton, C. Savill and Jas. White, Farnham.

In proposing the election of the Foxearth, Glemsford, and Long Melford ringers, the chairman congratulated the Association on having secured the adhesion of a tower in which so much good ringing is done as at Foxearth, and the Rev. J. F. Foster expressed a hope that though Foxearth is somewhat remote, the Association might visit it for a summer meeting. The chairman also pointed out the accession of a fresh company from Farnham, near Bishops Stortford, this being the fifth tower added to the Association's list during the year which begun last Whitsuntide. During the same period 104 new members have been elected, twenty-six of whom are non-resident in Essex.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman and to the vicar and churchwardens of St. Peter's. Some tunes were afterwards capitally played on the handbells, first by Messrs. J. B. Bradley and S. and H. E. Hammond, with four bells each, and then by the Harwich ringers. Most of those present returned to the tower for another pull before leaving.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

ROUND TOWERS IN EASTERN COUNTIES' CHURCHES.

A correspondent of the *Guardian* writes as follows:—

"A great deal of nonsense has been written on this subject. Some have imagined that because St. Fursey, one of the apostles of East Anglia, was an Irishman, he brought with him the style of building which had long been in vogue in his own island. The fact is no two towers can be more unlike than an Irish 'round tower' and the tower of such a church as St. Julian's at Norwich, for instance. The former are tall, slender, beautifully built of layer above layer of cut stone, as neatly laid as the bricks in a factory chimney; the latter are short, squat, and many of them (especially the more modern ones, for the style lasted till Henry VIII.'s time) of the coarsest possible construction. The simple reason why so many towers in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, are round, is the absence of building stone. Norfolk has none at all, except the car (*i.e.*, *fen*) stone in the north-west, the dark brown of which is used with such good effect at Hunstanton and Sandringham; and its sister counties are no better off. Now, for a square tower you must have coigns of ashlar—*i.e.*, dressed stone—even if all the rest is rubble. The mortar and flints, of which most East Anglian churches are built, does very well for the walls, but it must be held together at the angles with a bonding of stones carefully laid. Such stones were costly in this part of England; and therefore in the poorer churches round towers, which can be built without any bonding stones, are of such frequent occurrence. The rubble seems to have been run in between a double drum of wood, which was raised stage by stage as the work hardened. None of them are lofty, and they are often topped with an octagonal story, the angles of which are usually of brick. The general effect is never imposing, and gives the idea of what it is—a make-shift. You never find a grand East Anglian church with a round tower. In building these grander churches, the little rivers were used to an extent undreamt of now. You see Castle Acre Priory on the Nor, but it never strikes you that the Caen stone so largely used in that splendid building was brought from Lynn up that shrunken little stream that you can almost leap across. Castle Acre, by the way, is another instance of the lack of building stone. From every part of it, except the west front, the ashlar has been picked out, so that the chapter-house, for instance, is pitted all over with the holes into which were set the facings of the triple Norman arcade. Not only all the houses in the village, but the farms and cottages for miles round were built out of the spoils. 'Old Tommy Coke,' as the founder of the Leicester family was irreverently termed, allowed his squatters to take abbey-stone in return for the promise of a vote. The west front was only spared owing to the remonstrances of the London and Norwich antiquaries. Except in that front there are not a dozen hewn stones left in Castle Acre Priory; all is rubble. Colchester bears witness in a different way to this want of building stone. It was one of the most important Roman stations in Britain; and yet it has singularly little Roman work above ground. At York there are Roman walls; as there also are at Pevensey and Wroxeter. At Lincoln there is a Roman gateway. At Colchester there is nothing but two or three arches near the Water Tower. All was used up to build the Castle and the Norman churches. Hence not only is there in one of the Castle walls the largest bit of Roman tile-work in England (the tiles having been taken from some Roman building and set, herring-bone fashion, in Norman concrete), but also there is, at St. Botolph's Priory, the unique instance of a Norman west front—rose window, two arcades richly ornamented, roundheaded doorway—all in Roman tile. The same material is used in the piers, the walls, and all the remaining work of this most interesting ruin; and the effect is most singular. Except the pilasters of the west door with their capitals, and about half the mouldings of the door arch, there are not a dozen bits of stone in the whole building. Several other Colchester churches contain a good deal of Roman material; indeed, the tower of Trinity shows that the work of using up what came to hand began before Norman times. Trinity tower is what is called 'Saxon,' is, in fact, much like St. Benet's, Cambridge, and the towers of Barnack, Northants, and St. Michael's, Oxford, only it is wholly of Roman tile, except the topmost story, which is of later brick. It is curious to see windows, splayed outside after the 'Saxon' style, wrought in tile instead of in the usual stone. Of course the 'long and short work' at the coigns, which is one of the distinctive marks of this style, is wanting, the Roman tiles, as sharp-edged now as when they were first laid, forming coign enough. The west door has one of the usual 'Saxon' straight-lined arches with triangular head, also wholly of Roman brick. Thus the case of Colchester and that of Castle Acre, illustrates that want of building stone in the eastern counties, which led to the expedient of building round towers, simply because it is impossible to properly construct a square tower without good building stones along all the angles. The Irish round towers are no more like the East Anglians, than the river of Monmouth is like the river of Macedon.'

Church News.

On the Feast of the Epiphany two ladies were admitted to the office of Deaconess by thhe Bishop of Bedford at the parish church of Hackney.

The large west window of St. Nicholas, Sevenoaks, has been fitted with new tracery and stained glass, from the studio of Mr. W. F. Dixon, of 18, University Street, in commemoration of the Jubilee.

The will has been proved of the Rev. Lionel Oliver Bigg, late of Crowhurst, Surrey, the personalty being sworn at upwards of £30,000. He leaves £2,000 to the Pusey library at Oxford.

The health of the Bishop of St. Albans, who is in his eightieth year, is giving rise to increased anxiety. Archdeacon Johnson has issued letters to the beneficed clergy in the dioceese, asking for the prayers of their congregations on behalf of the venerable prelate.

The Ven. Benjamin Philpot, of Surbiton, completed his ninety-eighth year on Monday last. Mr. Philpot graduated at Cambridge in 1812, and was ordained the year of Waterloo. He was formerly Vicar-General of the Isle of Man, and Archdeacon of that see.

The installation of the Dean-designate of Rochester (Canon Hole), is expected to take place on Candlemas Day. The *Maidstone Journal* says that the Canon has one only son, who has just finished his University course, and whose height is six feet four inches.

A brass altar cross has been placed in St. Luke's, Jersey, as a memento of a very successful mission which was held there in October last by the Revs. A. W. N. Deacon, rector of Wallingford, and A. V. Cox, rector of Hook Norton.

A brass eagle lectern has just been supplied by Messrs. Benham and Froud, to the parish church of Hammersmith, as a memorial of the late Commander Mansell. The congregation of All Saint's, Shuter's Hill, have just presented their vicar with an eagle lectern made by the same firm.

The programme at the re-opening of Southwell cathedral on Candlemas Day has been published. At nine the Archbishop of Canterbury will re-open the choir, and will celebrate the Holy Communion. At 11.15 there will be a service of praise and thanksgiving, with a sermon by the Bishop of Lichfield. At 3 p.m. there will be evensong in the nave, with a sermon by the Bishop of Salisbury.

The Bristol Bishopric Society is making an earnest appeal for £6,000, to meet an anonymous offer of £10,000, which has been made on condition that £30,000 shall have been paid in by Midsummer next. Towards this sum of £30,000 there has been already subscribed about £24,000, of which rather more than half has been paid. If the £10,000 be secured, the fund will be raised to £40,000, which will produce an income of £1,400 a year; to which £500 a year will be added from the see of Gloucester, and a yearly sum is expected to be allocated to Bristol from an Episcopal fund, in the formation of which the Bishop is known to be actively interested, so that the statutory income of £3,000 will be almost realised.

The Rev. Robert Eden, vicar of Old St. Pancras, has issued an appeal for funds wherewith to improve and slightly enlarge his church. The present building, which was enlarged and re-cased with stones taken from the old tower in 1848, is supposed to have been erected about the year 1380, and it is believed that it stands on the site of one that dated far back into pre-Norman times. It is said to have been the last church in England in which the Latin Mass was said, and the old altar-stone is still in the church. Many Roman Catholics, and among them one or more members of the Norfolk and other noble families, such as the Arundells of Wardour, the Dillons, the Cliffords of Chudleigh, and the Petres, and a number of French refugees of the last century, lie buried in the churchyard. Not a few other persons of note have been interred here, such as Jeremiah Collier, who was consecrated bishop by the nonjurors in 1713, and became afterwards head of the party known as "Usagers;" the Chevalier d'Eon; John Walker, author of the Pronouncing Dictionary; Pasco de Paoli, the Corsican. Mr. Eden's address is 58, Oakley Square, N.W.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE next District Meeting will be held at Buxted, on Saturday, February 4th, instead of January 18th. The postponement is occasioned by a death at Buxted House. GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, January 8th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes). J. Garforth, 1; J. H. Dixon (composer and conductor), 2; J. Idle, 3; H. Robinson, 4; N. Hepworth, 5; G. H. Hardy, 6; J. Buckley, 7; G. Taylor, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"May good ringers flourish, may bad ringers mend,
May change-ringing last till the world's at an end."

Another new peal. "Still they come!" and the number of our country's peal goes on increasing. Let us hope Mr. Davies will be fortunate with his young band at Liscard, so that their performances may soon be on a par with the bells they ring, of which we receive such a flattering account.

* * * * *

If anything was needed to convince one that the festive season just over is observed to the full by our fraternity, your pages last week would furnish sufficient evidence in this respect. Harmonious and pleasant gatherings—with their accompanying warm-hearted hand-shakings and utterances of good wishes—have evidently been the order of the day. It is well this should be so; that round the festive board hearts may be warmed, all quarrels and animosities of the past forgotten and forgiven, and a new start made with renewed friendships sealed, and a determination to jog along together through life bearing and forbearing with one another.

* * * * *

I notice your columns continue to tell the "old old story" of peals and touches "come to grief," and sometimes am inclined to think that change-ringers should be endowed with a much more of ordinary amount of those excellent qualities—patience and perseverance. When we consider the almost innumerable untoward things which militate against the successful accomplishment of these peals and touches, it seems surprising—and no less creditable to our brethren—that we do not have considerably more secessions from our ranks than we actually experience through loss of heart at these too frequent mishaps and failures. The fact of a man having walked miles in order to take part in a peal, and when he has arrived at the place of meeting, finds there is a man short, or one of the bells is unringable, or they make a start, and when all things appear favourable for "coming home" in fine style, a jumble happens through which a change occurs, or in the excitement of the moment the conductor forgets to call a bob, so in place of coming home, they come to grief; all this does not certainly tend to make a man satisfied with himself, or to make im think otherwise than that he has had a wasted afternoon or ening.

* * * * *

This brings to my mind a circumstance which ccurred in connection with a company with which I have pleasure to be acquainted, and which so well illustrates my eaning, that I am tempted to relate it. Just recently this company agreed to have an extra "cut in" at Grandsire Caters for the following Sunday evening service, and for this purpose the word went round "five o'clock sharp." When the clock struck the hour appointed, nine men had turned up. Where was the truant one? No one had seen him since morning service. Well, confident of his appearing, they raised the bells: but hardly had they got them fairly risen, when—snap!—and away went part of the fourth bell rope into the air, leaving the portion from the sallie downwards in the ringer's hands. Nothing daunted, they set to and spliced the rope, while others raised the tenor. Still the tenth man had not put in an appearance, so it was decided to "turn the bells round a bit," when, lo and behold, the tenor refused to stir. What could be the matter now? The poor bewildered steeple-keeper—a thoroughly good and conscientious man at his job—was properly "flabbergasted." On investigation it was found that the tenor pulley had dissolved partnership with the box, and which after a search was found on the floor some distance away. Then willing hands remedied mishap No. 2, and while this was being done, the errant one appeared on the scene. The time was now 5.35, so that the extra half hour's ring was out of the question. Anyhow, a start was made, and all things went smoothly for about half an hour, when one of them on dodging in 8-9, missed his way, got muddled, and thus the whole thing came to grief.

* * * * *

I do not mention this circumstance as being anything uncommon; on the contrary such experiences are far *too* common. I merely relate it as shewing some of the difficulties which often present themselves in the way of successful ringing, and while complimenting my brethren on the determination to succeed which has been manifest in the past, would venture to urge upon them in the future to let their patience be unbounded, and their perseverance unfailing; thus they will accomplish more than they even dreamt of in the past.

* * * * *

Allow me to congratulate the Rev. F. E. Robinson on his accomplishment of two peals during the last week of the old year. I had the pleasure of meeting him over twelve months ago, when he addressed the members of the Yorkshire Association at Birstall, and his words of practical advice on that occasion will never be effaced from memory. On reading the report of his peal of Stedman Triples, I was forcibly reminded of the excellent parallel which he shewed that method afforded of the Christian's life, and his communication with the world and his God. I hope the long peal of Double Norwich Court has been successfully completed, and that I may next week have the pleasure of congratulating the Oxford Guild on their latest and greatest achievement.

* * * * *

Just one more point, and I have done for this week. Don't you think too much fuss has been made over the puerile utterances of the reporter of Romford? While agreeing fully with the justifiable—though severe—castigations given him by yourself and your correspondent, I am rather of opinion that too much importace has been attached to that worthy's petty criticisms. Stand upon your own dignity, my friends of Romford, and though the sting of a wasp may be uncomfortable for a time, put your foot on the insect at once, rather than let it imagine that it is a being of any importance. FREE LANCE.

ST. MARY'S, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

IN the beautiful tower of this church hangs fourteen bells, ten of which forms the ringing peal, and is in splendid going order. Since these bells were augmented and rehung by Messrs. Taylor in 1885, an attempt has been made to form a Guild of change-ringers, but not very much has been done, chiefly through the opposition of an old band of Churchyard Bob men, who seemed to get the priority of all ringing. And so it has gone on until a few week's since, the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Askwith), who has only held the living for about six months, set to work to reorganize the whole thing. Calling together all the ringers, he laid before them his views, and what was to be done at the beginning of 1888. That there should be one Society and that for the furthering of the art of change-ringing, and those wishing to join had to send in their names by a specified time. The day passed, and only the names of those who had been supporting change-ringing was received, the others preferred leaving it in their hands, and therefore as a body resigned. On Friday evening, January 6th, a meeting was held in the schoolroom, when suitable rules were agreed too, and the following evening a short service was held in the belfry, when the vicar admitted the following as members of the Guild: Messrs. C. H. Venning (steward), T. Doble (conductor), J. Burge, F. Burge, G. E. Harbour, J. Maddock, C. E. May, W. Pearce, J. Summerhayes, and E. Wyatt; and heartily wished them success in the art of change-ringing, which is so little practised in Somerset,

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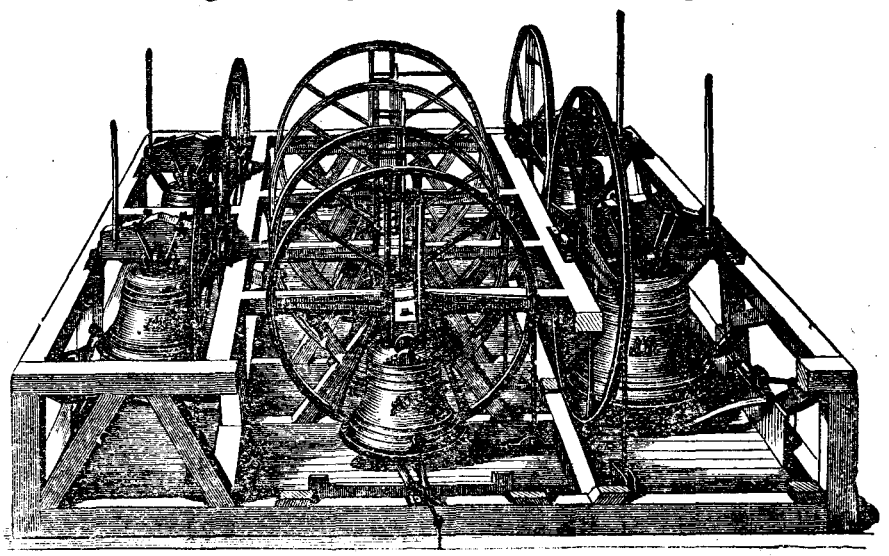

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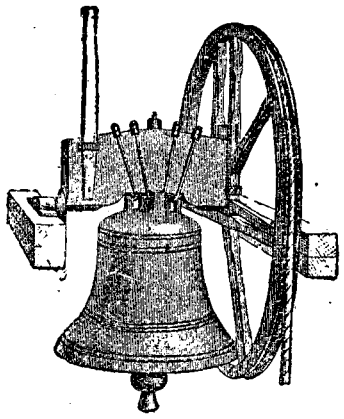

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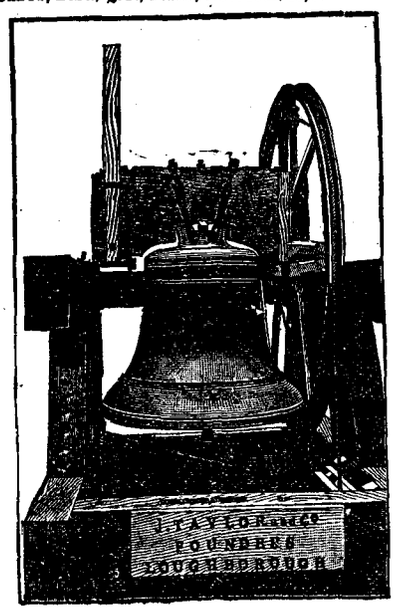

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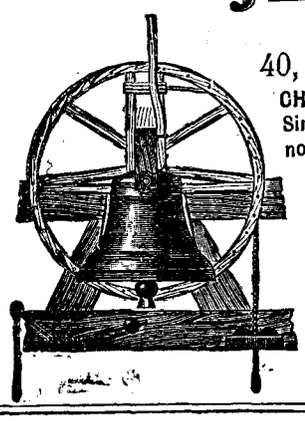

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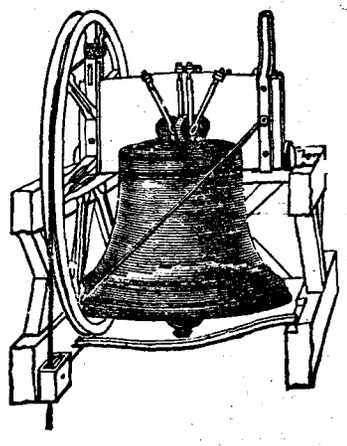

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THE LATE REV. J. H. FISH.—DEDICATION OF A MEMORIAL WINDOW.

The memorial window which an attached and devoted flock have determined shall perpetuate the memory of a zealous and faithful Minister, was dedicated by the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Lichfield (Dr. Maclagan) on Tuesday evening, January 10th, when a fairly large number of worshippers assembled in St. Paul's church, Burton-on-Trent, to take part in the service specially ordered for such occasions. It must be understood that shortly the lamentably sudden death of the Rev. James H. Fish, an unanimous desire was expressed for the establishment of some memorial of him, and it having been decided that a window and tablet in St. Paul's, and a painted fresco in St. Margaret's, if the funds allowed of such, should perpetuate the Vicar's worth, and at the same time tell of the esteem and affection in which he was held by his parishioners, a committee of thirty-five gentlemen, including the clergy, churchwardens, past and present, sidesmen, organists, Sunday school superintendents, representatives of the ringers, and members of the congregations, with Mr. H. W. Boome as chairman, Mr. E. A. Brown, treasurer, and Mr. R. Churchill, secretary, was formed at the last Easter Vestry meeting to collect the necessary subscriptions and carry out the project.

The window, which has been executed by Messrs. Burlison and Grylls, of London, under the supervision of Mr. Bodley, architect, of London, consists of three lights and tracery above, and is placed on the east side of the north transept. The left-hand panel contains the figure of St. James', with the text, "Be ye doers of the word, not hearers only;" and the right-hand panel has the figure of St. Paul, with the text, "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." The centre light is divided into two panels, the upper containing the figure of Our Lord in the act of blessing the text being, "Feed my lambs: feed my sheep," and the lower having a portrait figure of the late Vicar, kneeling at the reading desk, with the inscription, "That it may please Thee to have mercy upon all men." Below the side panels are small circles enclosing representations of the font of St. Paul's church on one side, and the cup and paten on the other; and the upper tracery is filled in with angels bearing shields with sacred monograms. The portrait of the late Vicar has been executed from an enlarged photograph, and, considering the difficulties under which it has been painted, the original photograph being only half-an-inch across, the result is most satisfactory and lifelike.

The memorial tablet placed under the window has been executed at the works of the late Mr. John Roddis, of Aston Road, Birmingham, from the design of Mr. R. Churchill, architect, and consists of a projecting moulded frame, enriched with a stem and ball flowers, worked out of beautifully-figured alabaster, given by Mr. W. Newton, of Burton, specially selected for the purpose and polished, and enclosing a polished statuary marble panel, bearing the following inscription:—

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
JAMES HENRY FISH, B.A.,
First Vicar of the Parish, 1874 to 1887.

This window is erected by his congregation for a lasting memorial of their gratitude to him as a faithful labourer for Christ, in the Church, Sunday Schools, and Parish.

Born December 1st, 1846.
Died April 5th, 1887.

"He being dead yet speaketh."—Heb. xi., 4.

The tablet was enclosed in a beautiful wreath of Arum lilies, while a magnificent cross of white flowers reposed in the priest's stall which the late Vicar occupied.

The fresco for the centre panel of the north aisle wall of St. Margaret's is now being painted by Messrs. Burlison and Grylls, and will be placed in position as soon as it is ready. The total cost of the memorials is estimated at about £220, and the amounts collected and promised reach £205. Thus the committee do not anticipate any difficulty in the way of an immediate clearance of the whole of the expenses.

As already intimated a special dedicatory service was followed by a shortened evensong, the collects read being those for All Saints and SS. Simon and Jude. The dedicatory prayer, if we may so term it, was selected from Bright's Ancient Collects, and formed a beautiful supplication. The clergy present, in addition to the Bishop, were the Rev. F. H. Beaven, the Rev. N. H. Theodosius, the Rev. J. J. Addenbrooke, the Rev. H. O. Hall, the Rev. C. F. Thornewill, the Rev. E. A. Nuttall, the Rev. S. O. Miller, the Rev. T. C. Angrave, the Rev. A. Lowe, and the Rev. T. Roper. The choir and clergy entered the church singing a processional hymn, and proceeded to the north transept (where the memorial window has been inserted), and here the actual dedication service took place.

Subsequently in the evening the Bishop ascended the pulpit and gave a brief address, basing his discourse on the words from the prophet Daniel (the second chapter and the 22nd verse), "He knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him."

That night, he said, their thoughts turned both to darkness and to light. They looken into the darkness of that hidden world which concealed from their view their beloved pastor, in whose memory they had just dedicated to the service of Almighty God the window they had placed in their parish church. But their mental vision did not rest there. On they passed through darkness to light, and although they might not penetrate the mysteries of that hidden world, nor imagine for themselves its conditions or occupations—for surely it was an active life for those who were there hidden in the near presence of their Lord and King—yet they could turn to the words of the prophet and find in them a source of comfort to their hearts. "He knoweth what is in the darkness and the light dwelleth with him." Whenever we thought of those who had been called away to rest from their labours, although it was impossible for us to conceive the conditions of life in the hidden world, yet we knew that in the near presence of Our Lord and Master, they were learning to love Him, as not even the best on earth had learned to do. His lordship contrasted the wonderful power of light as it illumined the material world with the still more wonderful power which enlightened the mind of man, and said hence it was that the most beautiful, most elevating influence which could be brought to bear on the human mind was God himself, and that the education of the young in the word of God was unspeakably important. Beside the comfort it brought to childish hearts to know that God loved and cared for them, and had prepared for them a place in the City of Saints, His word was above all others the most powerful of educating influences in the world. There existed nothing like it for expanding the youthful mind and ennobling the desires and aspirations even of our little children, for expanding the mind of the young more and more in power and intellect as they exercised those gifts in the service of the infinite and glorious God himself. The light which streamed down into their infant hearts and minds with the beginning of that light which was the light of every man that cometh into the world—"the light that dwelleth with Him." As they thought that night of him whose loss they had so recently mourned, and who now in that blessed world rested in peace, perchance he knew how they were engaged at that moment—not by any direct knowledge of his own, but through the medium of the blessed Lord—knew of the love which still beat in their hearts for him, and of the consolation they had learned from him in the manliness and nobility of a true Christian life. How clear were the words of the prophet to uphold and strengthen them through the course of the new year on which we had just entered. None could tell what would befall them during the year. How little their late vicar knew or thought what was so very near him on the last day of his life, and when we thought of the unknown sorrow and trouble which the future concealed from our sight, how much we needed to be prepared for all emergencies in this changeful life.

A hymn was sung (during which a collection was taken for the memorial fund) the blessing was pronounced, and a service altogether in keeping with the special circumstances of the occasion was brought to a close.

Previous to the service short lengths of New Cumberland Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, and Superlative Surprise, were rung with the bells half-muffled, the muffles being removed after the service, when a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 49 mins. John Austin, 1; R. W. Evans (Wrexham), 2; William Wakley, 3; Joseph Griffin (conductor), 4; Edward I. Stone, 5; Harry Wakley, 6; Thomas Holmes, 7; George Robinson, 8. It is the intention of the members of the St. Paul's Society to erect, with the help of their honorary members, another tablet to the memory of their beloved Vicar, who was also the founder of their Society, which is to be placed in the belfry, and on which will be recorded particulars of the muffled peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung by them about the time of his funeral. It is hoped that this work will be completed before the 5th of April next, the anniversary of his death.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT WAINFLEET.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association took place on Saturday last. As early as 8 o'clock members began to arrive, and at 8.30 a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), was rung by the West Keal company in 27 mins. J. Simpson, 1; J. A. Hand, 2; W. Vickers, 3; G. Green, 4: H. Daulton (conductor), 5; J. Seymour, 6. Also 720 in the same method (four bobs and fourteen singles). T. Cheetham (East Keal), 1; E. Mason (Boston), 4; the rest as before, conducted by H. Daulton. The West Keal company then proceeded to Croft, but the bells being rather out of repair, only a half-peal was rung. A 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and sixteen singles) was rung. T. Cheetham (East Keal), 1; G. Clark (Skirbeck), 2: T. M. Rylatt (Boston), 3; J. Mawer (Sibsey), 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. And a 360. H. Smith, 1; T. Cheetham, 3; the rest as before.

At 12.45 a special service was held in All Saints' church, with an address from the Rev. R. M. Heanley, rector of All Saints', taking his text from Psalm 95, verse 1: "O come let us sing unto the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."

In the course of his observations, he said that undoubtedly as far as they could make out bells and the use they made of them to day, were comparatively unknown in ancient times, and bells and churches as far as they could discover, were eminently Christian, and there could not have been devised by the wit of man, anything more solemn, anything more sweet for calling people to prayer. Although this was the primary use of the bells, yet they were used to announce the death of Christians, and pealed forth joyfully at the marriages. He dwelt at some length upon the importance of their avocation, reminding them that theirs was a work for God, impressing them to remember this wherever they were ringing.

At 2 p.m dinner was provided at the "Angel Hotel," when thirty ringers attended from Boston, Skirbeck, Sibsey, Frieston, West and East Keal, Spilsby, Halton, Croft, Wainfleet, etc., the Rev. R M. Heanley presiding.

After dinner the Chairman called upon the Secretary for the minutes of the last meeting.

MR. MASON said before he read the minutes, he was sure every member of this Association must regret the absence of their worthy President, the Rev. H. J. Cheales, who was that day absent from them personally, but he was sure he would be with them in mind, for every one knew the great interest he took in the Association, and they sincerely prayed he might soon be restored to health again, but at the same time they was thankful their friend, the Rev. Mr. Heanley, had been so kind as to take his place. The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN then gave the Association a hearty welcome to Wainfleet, and spoke of the good that societies of this kind was able to do. Although he was not so fortunate as some to have a peal of bells to ask them to go and ring, because he had only one, but perhaps the time might come when they might have a peal in their church.

Several new members were elected, including the Chairman, two skilled members, and three probationers.

MR. J. A. HAND proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his kindness in granting them the use of his Church for service, and giving them an address, and also for presiding at their business meeting. Although it was the first time they had had the pleasure of meeting him at their meeting, he hoped it would not be the last.

The Rev. R. M. HEANLEY responded. Several tunes were rung on the handbells during the afternoon. Several of the members called at Friskney on their way home, and rang 360 of Minor. C. Randell, J. Sharp, A. Barber, S. Steper (Frieston), G. Smith, and G. Clark.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Radcliffe, on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting in the school at 6 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited.

JOEL REDFORD,
A. E. WREAKS, } *Hon. Sec.*

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Third Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, January 6th. After ringing touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Duffield Major, and New Cumberland Surprise, about fifty sat down to an excellent tea at the "Queen's Hotel." The President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq)., took the chair, supported by the Vicar (the Rev. John Denton), and E. F. Manimott, Esq.; C. Matthews, Esq. officiating at the opposite end of the table.

The PRESIDENT, in reviewing the performances of the Association, remarked that eleven peals had been rung during the quarter, bringing up the total for the year 1887 to forty-three, and that although this number did not, numerically, bear comparison with the Society's record of sixty-seven peals in 1885, and fifty-five in 1886, still the present year's work might be considered finer, in that peals had been achieved in a larger number of methods, namely in three methods on seven bells, in eight on eight bells, in two on nine bells, and in two on ten bells. He congratulated the local band on their progress, and hoped soon to see them score a peal.

Mr. WILLIAM WAKLEY proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and expressed the pleasure that that gentleman's presence among them gave to the Association.

The VICAR, in returning thanks, heartily congratulated the Association on their success, and spoke of his deep appreciation of the work, assuring them of his continued support.

Two honorary members, and ten ringing members were proposed and elected. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. J. Griffin, brought the meeting to a close. The handbells having been brought into requisition, a well-struck 336 of Grandsire Triples was brought round by Messrs. Howe, Ward and Woodward, of Derby, assisted by Mr. J. Jaggar. After which the majority of the company adjourned to the tower, and concluded the evening with a tew touches.

VISIT OF SWANSCOMBE RINGERS TO ASH.

ON Monday, January 16th, the above ringers paid their annual visit to this place, a small village about eight miles from Swanscombe, where there is a peal of six, tenor about 11 cwt., for the purpose of ringing to celebrate the 88th birthday of Mr. G. Elcombe, who has been parish clerk and sexton fifty-six years, only missing the church services about three times during that period. Starting from the "Blue Anchor," Swanscombe, at 4 p.m in a waggonette and pair supplied by Mr. R. Baker, Galley Hill, they had a pleasant, though cold journey through the country lanes, arriving at Ash about 5.30, where they found tea awaiting them, which proved very acceptable. They then made their way to the tower, when 720 Plain Bob was rung in 26 mins. G. Elcombe, 1; A. Cornford, 2: F. Ring, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. The Messrs. Taylor from Wrotham then arrived, when being one short for Treble Bob, and after a few plain courses and rounds with the local company, the bells were lowered in peal. The ringers then adjourned to the "White Swan" Inn, where the health of Mr. Elcombe was proposed by Mr. Glover (churchwarden), and heartily drunk, the rest of the evening being spent in music and singing. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the rector for granting them permission to ring, also to the ringers for getting everything in readiness for them.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—SUMMARY FOR 1887.

During the year 1887 have been rung at Stockton parish church, fourteen peals each of Cambridge and York Surprise 10 of Worcester and 9 each of Durham and Wells Surprise; 8 of Kent Treble Bob; 7 of Chichester Surprise; 5 of Oxford Treble Bob; 2 each of Woodbine and Bob Minor. The above includes a 5040 of Surprise Methods rung on May 24th, and again as a Jubilee peal on November 9. Of the total number of 720's (89) in the above list, 44 were conducted by T. Stephenson, 32 by G. J. Clarkson, 10 by T. Burdon, 1 each by T. W. Waller and W. Newton, and one 720 of Kent was rung without the bobs being called.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 31st, the St. Michael's society, Melbourne, held their annual dinner at the "Blue Bell Inn," where ample justice was done to the good things provided by Mrs. Holmes. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. After the toast of "The St. Michael's Society," a warm discussion arose with respect to a new rule that the clergy wished to add in connexion with new members, which was not received at all favourably by the ringers themselves. However the evening passed off very pleasantly on the whole, the interval between closing time and the time arranged for meeting at the parish church being passed very pleasantly at the house of Mr. Tunnicliff, in songs, etc. At 11.30 the ringers, ringing the handbells as they went, proceeded to the church, where a short touch of Bob Major was rung. Immediately after twelve o'clock, another touch in the same method was rung. F. W. Cook, 1; J. Vickers, 2; G. A. Fish, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; J. Warren, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; H. C. Woodward, 8. Also 336 Bob Triples. F. W. Cook, 1; J. R. Wood, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; J. Warren, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6; J. Vickers, 7; F. Kinsey, 8.

ST. MARY'S, PENZANCE.

The change-ringers of the above church, were invited by Mr. and Mrs. J. Symons to supper at their house on Thursday, January 12th. Ample justice was done by the company to the good things provided for them. After supper, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Symons for his continued interest in the change-ringing at St. Mary's, and the proposer of the toast (the Rev. A. B. Berry), reminded his brother ringers that they had now the pleasure of being able to make an addition to the toast, Mr. Symons's marriage having taken place last summer. He therefore begged to include Mrs. J. Symons, and in drinking the health of their host and hostess, and thanking them for their hospitality, he was sure that one and all wished them long life, health, and happiness. On adjourning to the drawing-room, the rest of the evening was pleasantly spent in handbell ringing, and music, vocal and instrumental, in which Mrs. J. Symons, Mr. N. Symons, and Mr. Sellers, took part. An analysis of work done in the belfry during the past year was read by Mr. Symons, showing good progress, especially in Stedman. May progress be the watchword of this, as of all other bands of change-ringers.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

On Tuesday, January 17th, the ringers and choir of the parish, with Messrs. W. Lincoln, and A. Edwards, of Writtle, partook of an excellent supper, through the kindness of A. Pryor, Esq., and Mrs. Pryor, of Hylands, at the "White Horse" Inn. The churchwarden (Mr. Clarke), presided. After ample justice was done to the good things provided, the cloth was removed. The health of the Squire and Mrs. Pryor was drunk with musical honours. It being the birthday of Mrs. Pryor, her health was drank amidst loud cheers, wishing her many happy returns of the day. Great credit is due to the hostess, Mrs. Thorn, for the way in which it was served. The rest of the evening was spent in singing and tune playing. Handbells—"Merry Merry England"; Song—"Oh what a tight little island," Mr. G. Dodd, the organist; "The ship that never returned," Mr. W. J. Piper; "The Ingle Side," Mr. W. Harvey; "A Pound or a Penny," Mr. A. Tarbun; A Medley, and "Oh Ladies, won't you marry," Mr. G. Dodd. Tunes at intervals on the handbells, including, "Sweet Minnie," A Waltz, "Poor Old Joe," and 168 Grandsire Triples. Mr. W. Lincoln gave several selections on the violin, after which an enjoyable evening was spent on the handbells, which brought it to a close. Previous to the supper, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung on the tower bells. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; W. J. Piper, 6.

On Saturday, the Convocations were further prorogued till the 10th of next month. It is understood that they will meet for business, **Canterbury on the 28th of February, and York on the 17th of April.**

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

On Thursday, January 5th, the local ringers met in the tower to have a farewell pull with the Rev. F. H. Fisher, the courteous and hardworking curate of the parish, who has been appointed to a living in Dorsetshire. Ever since the bells were dedicated about two years ago, Mr. Fisher has taken the greatest interest in the ringers, and all that appertained to the belfry. His departure will therefore be keenly felt by all the ringers, and his kindness and liberality will not soon be forgotten by them. The chief touch consisted of four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. Painter, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; A. Slarks, 3; H. Jones, 4; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 5; Rev. F. H. Fisher, 6. Before separating, the ringers heartily wished Mr. Fisher success in his new sphere of work. On the following Monday evening, the ringers in conjunction with the members of the Cricket Club and Working Men's Club, presented Mr. Fisher with a handsome Gladstone bag, in appreciation of his services among them.

In making the presentation, Mr. Jackson, on behalf of the above societies, eulogised on the great interest Mr. Fisher had always taken in everything for the welfare of the parish, and heartily wished him health and happiness, and that God might bless him in his new work.

The rev. gentleman responded in feeling and suitable words, and thanked the subscribers for their kind and valuable present. Alluding to the ringers, he said the ringing needed little comment from him, as the admirable way in which the bells were rung, certainly spoke for itself.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Kingston-on-Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar on Monday, January 16th. Soon after six a company of forty members sat down to tea at the Leopold Coffee Tavern. At seven o'clock the chair was taken by the Rev. A. S. W. Young, Vicar of Kingston, and Hon. Treasurer of the Association, and the necessary business of the evening was despatched. A finished drawing by Mr. W. H. Fussell for the proposed certificate was exhibited and much admired. Nine new members were formally elected. E. F. Strange, Esq., was elected to act as assistant Secretary. It was arranged that the next District meeting should be held at Putney, and the next Quarterly meeting at Wimbledon. During the day there were present members from Ashtead, Beddington, Betchworth, Croydon, Epsom, Kingston, Reigate, Streatham, Thames Ditton, Wimbledon, and London. In the course of the day some excellent ringing was indulged in at the parish church, including a well-struck touch of about seventeen courses of Grandsire Caters by the Kingston band, conducted by J. Strutt. Later on touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Stedman Triples and Caters were rung; and in the evening some good handbell ringing was given under the auspices of Mr. Buckingham, one touch of Grandsire Triples—365—being noticeable as the first in the method upon handbells for the ringers of the trebles and tenors. J. Smith, 1-2; W. H. Fussell, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Miles, 7-8.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting will be held at Lightcliffe, near Halifax, on Saturday the 4th. By permission of the Rev. V. R. Leonard, M.A., and the Rev. S. Pearson, a ring of eight (tenor 20 cwt)., and a ring of six (tenor 15 cwt)., are available for the use of members on that day. All ringing friends from the surrounding districts are cordially invited.

W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

The *Yorkshire Post* says that £70 7s. has been already contributed for a white frontal for the new altar in Lincoln Minster. The subscribers number 130. The fund for the altar linen and the green frontal has reached £26 14s. 7d. Only about half the money required for the execution of the entire design has been raised. The gifts have varied from £10 to 1s. The children of St. Botolph's Guild have given their mite, the communicants of Hatton have sent an offertory.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE SALISBURY RINGERS.

THE city ringers of Salisbury held their Annual Dinner on Wednesday evening, January 11th, at the "Coach and Horses" inn. The Mayor (Mr. E. Waters) presided, and was supported by the Revs. C. N. Wyld and A. C. Gibson, and Messrs. G. Fullford, Folliott, and others. Host Holness provided a capital dinner, which, having been done ample justice to, the cloth was drawn, and

The first toast was proposed by the MAYOR, viz.: "The Queen, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." This was received with musical honours.

Mr. G. FULLFORD then proposed "The Bishop and Clergy," coupling with the toast the name of the Rev. A. C. Gibson.

Mr. GIGSON, in responding, referred to the demolition of the Cathedral bells in the last century, and said he hoped the day would come when a campanile would be erected and a peal of twelve bells placed therein. Some change-ringing on handbells followed by Messrs. Blackbourn, Gifford, Tydeman, and Adams, after which

Mr. SCOTT proposed "The St. Edmund's Ringers," coupled with the name of Mr. J. Parsons, jun.

Mr. PARSONS, in responding, said they did not make so much progress in change-ringing at St. Edmund's as he could wish, owing to members of their company frequently leaving soon after they had learned to ring. They had, however, managed to ring six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the previous night, and he hoped that some of the more advanced change-ringers in the town would more often pay them a visit.

The MAYOR then proposed "The Salisbury Diocesan Guild," coupled with the name of the Secretary, Mr. Jerram.

In responding, Mr. JERRAM spoke of the progress of the Guild both as regarded increase in the number of members and in change-ringing done. He said that no less than six peals of 5040 changes had been rung by members of the Guild during the past year. They had had the honour of performing the first and only peal ever rung in Dorsetshire; this was at Bridport on the 8th of last May. They had also rung four peals in Salisbury during the last three months. The first one, on September 3rd, was the first ever rung in Salisbury. Before sitting down he wished to couple also with the toast the names of Mr. Blackbourn and Mr. Gifford, who had been most active in advancing the science of change-ringing.

Mr. BLACKBOURN and Mr. GIFFORD then suitably responded, and spoke of the severe strain put upon anyone in teaching and ringing a peal. Mr. Blackbourn proposed "The Health of the Chairman and Vice-chairman."

The MAYOR, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to come among them, more especially as he had been a ringer himself once at Bournemouth, so he knew something of what a ringer's work was. He wished all the duties he had to perform during his term of office were as pleasant as presiding at such a meeting as this.

Mr. G. FULLFORD also responded, and mentioned the dinner last year, at which he had presided, and also spoke of the work done by the Guild.

Mr. F. RIGDEN then proposed the health of "St. Thomas' and St. Martin's ringers," coupled with the names of Mr. Short and Mr. Blackbourn, both of whom suitably responded.

Mr. JERRAM proposed the "The Visitors," which was responded to by Mr. FOLLIOTT and Mr. MOUNTFORD, and one of the Wishford company.

Mr. SHORT proposed "The health of the host," to which Mr. Holness suitably responded.

Songs were sung at intervals by Messrs. Mountford, Prince, Wade, Lawrence, Tryhorn, Scott, Stevens, Parsons, Short, and others. Tunes on handbells were played by Messrs. Blackbourn and Clements. Mr. Stevens presided at the piano, and Messrs. Scamells and Plowman accompanied some of the songs on the violin. The company separated at 11 p.m., after having spent a very enjoyable evening.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Buxted, on Saturday, February 4th, instead of January 21st. Full particulars will be announced next week. GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Monday, January 9th, a goodly number of members of the above Association met at Almondsbury, near Bristol, for their anniversary gathering—the Society having been inaugurated just ten years ago. Divine Service preceded the business of the day. The service was conducted by the Revs. C. D. P. Davies, of Whiteshill, past Master of the Association; Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Vicar of Magor and Redwick, Hon. Sec.; and Canon Cooper, Vicar of Almondsbury, who gave a suitable address. Some touches were rung between the service and dinner, which took place at the Swan Hotel, under the presidency of the Vicar, who was supported by the eurate and churchwardens and the afore-mentioned clergymen. The loyal toasts were duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN gave "Success to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association," coupled with the name of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who reviewed the encouraging work of the Association in the past ten years, and exhorted the members to break new ground and cultivate some of the lesser known methods, which, despite their long sounding names, were not difficult, he assured them.

The health of the Hon. Sec. was then proposed by Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, of Long Ashton, who attributed the success of the Association in a very great degree to the unwearying efforts of their good friend, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn. The toast was accorded musical honours, and the Rev. gentleman having suitably responded, matters connected with the proceedings of the Association were discussed. Eleven fresh members were elected. The next by-meeting will be held at Westbury-on-Severn, previous to the Annual Meeting, which this year falls to Bristol.

After dinner the Thornbury ringers gave an excellent rendering of the "Men of Harlech" on their handbells. This was followed by 168 Grandsire Triples, on handbells presented by the Association to the Sec., Mr. Eykyn a year or two ago. Rev. C. D. P. Davis, 1-2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3-4; F. Price, 5-6; G. Daltry, 7-8. Mr. Hinton then tapped most excellently one or or two tunes on his bells, fixed neatly in a box for that purpose. Various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the tower bells during the day by mixed bands, varying in length from 200 to 500.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Selly Oak, Worcestershire, on Saturday, January 21st. Members are requested to be in time for commencement of business meeting, if not in time for tower, so that the vote of every one may be recorded in the election of the officials for the ensuing year. Through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. C. Price, the tower of St. Mary's will be open during the afternoon. Business meeting at the "Royal Oak" at 6.30. Members not having remitted subscriptions for current year may do so not later than the 20th, otherwise their names will be struck off the register, as they will be considered to have left the Association.

JOHN WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

Crump's Cottages, Silver Street, Birmingham.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

ON Friday, January 13th, the Redenhall branch of the above Association celebrated the 152nd anniversary of their society. The present society was found in 1736, when the peal was augmented to eight bells. There had been a six-bell company from 1717, when the present third bell was added by John Stephens, of Norwich, and previous to that there had been a five-bell company, but for how long is not known. The tenor was put in about the year 1514. On Friday, there was rather a short muster, but a pleasant day was passed. There was some very good ringing, consisting of Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Double Norwich Court Bob. The dinner took place at the "Yew Tree" Inn, at which the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne presided, and was attended by ringers from Norwich, Diss, Alburgh, and Topcroft. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke, secretary of the Association, and the Rev. A. G. Blyth, came from Norwich.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By S. MARSH, *West Bromwich.*

23456	M	B	W	H
24536	1	–	2	2
36452	2	–		2
26543	1		2	1
32465		–	2	2
25463	2	–	1	2
32654		–	2	2
24653	2	–	1	2
32546		–	2	2
35426			1	2
23564		–		2
34562	1			2
23645	2		1	2
26435			1	2
34625	1	–		2
23456		–		2

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6, and the 2nd and 3rd in the hunt at each course-end.

A TOUCH OF BOB MAJOR.

1008.

By T. GREENWOOD, *Marsham.*

23456	W	5th	4th	OB	IN	M	H
35426		–	–			–	–
25436		–	–			–	s
54236	–	–	–			–	
56234	s	–	–				–
64235	–	–	–				–
67524 3	–	–		4	3	–	–
37456 2	–	6		3	4	–	–
72456 3	–		–			–	–
23456	–		–			–	–

The above touch contains fifty calls, which is believed to be the greatest number yet introduced into a touch this length in the method.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5007.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

231456	5	6	19
*42513 6			
52463 1		–	–
32415 6	–	–	–
32645 1			–
32165 4			–
12345 6		–	–
12635 4			–
12465 3			–
42135 6		–	–
42615 3			–
62435 1		–	–
62145 3			–
62315 4			–

The last eleven courses twice repeated, except first course of third part when call s6, 19, will produce

42136 5

62154 3	5	6	19
62314 5			–

Round by bobs at 2, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, in four sixes and one change.

*This course by bobs at 1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 5, 17.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5021.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

23456	
32456	7th in and out at 2 with a double
25436	7th with three
43526	7th in and out at 2
34526	9th in and out at 2 with a double
62435	9th with 2
46235	8th with 3
24635	8th with 3
64532	9 8
54236	9 8
25436	8th with 3
42536	8th with 3
52634	9 8
65234	8th with 3
26534	8th with 3
56432	9 8
45632	8th with 3

These twelve courses three times repeated except first course of last part call 9th with 3 brings up

56243
62354
34265

Round the lead before.

The above has 3, 4, 5, 6, each twelve courses behind the 8th.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By W. T. PATES, *Cheltenham.*

23456	1	4	6
54326	–		–
43526			–
35426			–
24536	–		–
45236			–
52436			–
32654	–	–	–
26354			–
53624	–		–
36524			–
65324			–
23564	–		–
63425	–	–	–
34625			–
46325			–
23645	–		–
36245			–
42635	–		–
32546	–	–	–
35246			s
52346			–
43256	–		–
32456			–

Repeated.

In this peal, the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5002.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham.*

	1	5	6	19
*41526 3				
41356 2				–
41236 5				–
21456 3			–	–
21346 5				–
31256 4			–	–
31426 5				–
31546 2				–
51326 4			–	–
51436 2				–
51246 3				–
21536 4			–	–
51462 3		–		–
41325 6		–		–
41635 2				–
61425 3			–	–
61345 2				–
61235 4				–
21645 3			–	–
21365 4				–
21435 6				–
41265 3			–	–
21354 6		–		–
31264 5			–	–
31524 6				–
32654 2				–
61324 5			–	–
61534 2				–
51624 3			–	
51364 2				–
51234 6				–
21564 3			–	–
51342 6		–		–
31625 4		–		–
31465 2				–
31245 6				–
31245 6	–			
31245 6	–			

The above peal was first rung at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, on December 27th, 1887, and was conducted by Mr. Henry Bastable.

*Bobs at 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17.

A DATE TOUCH OF BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, *Bishops Stortford.*

23456	W	B	M	H
45362	1	1	1	1
34562				1
53462				1
24365			1	1
24536	1	2		1
53246	1			1
25346				1
32546				1

Repeated,

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One copy, 12 months .. .. 6*s.* 6*d.*
" 6 " .. .. 3*s.* 3*d.*
" 3 " .. .. 1*s.* 8*d.*

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1888.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A trial of skill in the art of change-ringing on eight bells will take place at St. Thomas's church, Leesfield, Lees, on Saturday, January 21st, when the Association Cup will be competed for (according to the terms stated in the last Annual Report), and two other prizes given, namely: 2nd prize: eight silk pocket handkerchiefs, with figured bells and ringing mottoes woven in, by Edward Matthews, of Macclesfield, given by the Leesfield ringers. 3rd prize: Eight walking sticks of exquisite design and workmanship, given by a few friends. The draw for priority of ringing will take place at the undermentioned house at 12 o'clock. This competition is for members only. The annual dinner and meeting will take place on the same day at the house of Mr. William Taylor, "Devonshire Arms," Lees, near Oldham. Dinner at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those intending being present at dinner must signify the same to host Taylor on or before Thursday, January 19th. Members are notified that the annual subscription is due at this meeting. This notice will be considered sufficient.

P.S.—Each company will be allowed to ring a plain course previous to the touch about to be rung for the cup, and not ninety-six changes, as stated in error in the 7th rule of the society's circulars. JAMES S. WILDE, *Hon. Sec.*

MEETING OF RINGERS AT CAMBRIDGE.

To celebrate the centenary of the long peal of Bob Maximus rung at Great St. Mary's, on January 21st, 1788, ringers are invited to a attend a meeting to be held on Saturday, January 21st, 1888, at Cambridge. The Cambridge towers will be open for ringing during the day, and dinner will be at the Bath Hotel, Benet Street, at 2 p.m. There will be a meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association at Cambridge on the same day, at which all members of that Association are earnestly requested to attend, to consider the position of the Society. Those ringers who intend to be present are requested to send notice not later than January 17th, 1888. M. C. POTTER.

17, *Fiizwilliam Street, Cambridge.*

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held in Beauty Bank School-room, Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 21st, 1888, at 5 p.m. prompt. The Rev. H. Sherard, Vicar, has kindly consented to preside. All subscriptions due at this meeting, according to rule seven. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head. The Secretary will be pleased to know how many of each company will take tea not later than Wednesday, January 18th. The tower of St. Thomas' will be open for ringing during the afternoon. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37, *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

The Provinces.

HEMPSTEAD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven-&-¼ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

5040 CHANGES, UPON SIX BELLS, BEING SEVEN DIFFERENT 720S OF PLAIN BOB MINOR.

Tenor 14 cwt.

R. BRUNSDEN*	*Treble.*	R. J. WILKINS	4.
S. E. ROMANS	2.	H. MITCHELL	5.
D. J. ASTON	3.	A. A. WAITE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by A. A. WAITE.

This is the first 5040 on the bells. *First peal in any method, and the first peal of Minor by all. Mr. R. Brunsden hails from Gloucester, the rest belong to the Barnwood Society.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S 12-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH	*Treble.*	HENRY COOK	5.
WALTER CHARMAN	2.	WILLIAM SHORT	6.
HENRY CHANDLER	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	GEORGE WOODMAN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Jesse Garman, a member of the Warnham branch. * First peal in the method with a bob bell.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. in F♯.

JOHN HARDMAN	*Treble.*	ABRAHAM HARDMAN	5.
ERNESE BISHOP	2.	JOHN HARDMAN	6.
JAMES GRATRIX	3.	ARTHUR BARRETT	7.
JOHN HARRISON	4.	WILLIAM FIELDING	*Tenor.*

Conducted by ARTHUR BARRETT.

Mr. James Gratrix belongs to Manchester, and John Harrison from Heywood.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.—THE ASHTON-UNDER LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE TOWH HALL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES;

Tenor 52 cwt.

THOMAS TAYLOR	*Treble.*	JOSEPH MELLOR	6.
JOHN HOPWOOD	2.	SHEPHERD ANDREW	7.
THOMAS WROE	3.	JOHN THORP	8.
JAMES WOOD	4.	SAMUEL WOOD	9.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT ..	5.	GEORGE LONGDEN / JOHN HARRISON	*Tenor.*

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The peal will be found on page 108 of Hubbard's *Campanalogia* (1876 edition), and s the first peal on the bells which have been hung over ten years, and are by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. The ringers take this opportuaity of thanking the Corporation of Manchester for their kind permission.

A CORRECTION.—In the account of Adderbury bells in our last issue it was stated that they were recast in the year 1787. It should have been 1717.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, January 12, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON	*Treble.*	EDWARD ISAAC STONE	5.
JOHN AUSTIN	2.	HARRY WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	*Tenor.*

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ., and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This is the second peal ever accomplished in this method, the first having been rung by the same company on May 31st, 1886. This is the conductor's 100th peal, the number of peals in the different methods and the number conducted being as follows: Grandsire Triples, 9, conducted 5; Stedman Triples, 24, conducted 12; Stedman Caters, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 19, conducted 8; Dovble Oxford Bob Major, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 15, conducted 2; New Cumberland Surprise, 2, conducted 1; Superlative Surprise, 21, conducted 8; ditto Burton Variation, 1; Cambridge Surprise, 3; ditto Burton Variation, 3, conducted 1; London Surprise, 1. Total conducted 37.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUHHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

HENRY LEWIS	*Treble.*	GHALLIS F. WINNY	5.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL	2.	GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	6.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	3.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY	7.
W. H. BUCKINGHAM	4.	THOMAS WALLER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

This is the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in the City. The above band with Mr. E. P. Debenham met for Grandsire Caters, but meeting one short decided to start for Stedman Triples instead, Mr. E. P. Debenham kindly standing out.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE CHRIST CHURCH, EASTBOURNE, BRANCH.

On Monday, January 16, 1888, *in Three Hours and One Minute,*

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 of each of the following:—

KENT TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, WARNHAM COURT, OXFORD SINGLE BOB, AND PLAIN BOB,

Tenor 8 cwt.

PERCIVAL PETERS*	*Treble.*	†THOMAS M. SMITH	4.
JOSEPH SHARP*	2.	†GEORGE H. HOWSE	5.
HORACE COLBRAN*	3.	FREDERICK HARDING	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK HARDING.

This is the first peal on the bells. * First peal. † First peal on six bells.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, January 16, 1888, *in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

EDWIN JORDAN	*Treble.*	GEORGE H. BARNETT	5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS†	2.	†WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN	6.
DAVID JORDAN†*	3.	‡ALFRED WHITE	7.
REV. H. A. SPYERS†	4.	EDWARD CLAPSHAW	*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Triples. ‡ First peal with a bob bell. † Members of the Sussex County Association. The brothers Jordan hail from Capel; Chamberlain from Petworth; Williams from Midhurst; Rev. H A. Spyers from Purbrook: the rest are of the local band. This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of the Rev. H. A. Spyers, Hon. Sec. of the above Guild.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 10½ cwt.

EDWIN CASHMORE	*Treble.*	CHARLES TIMMS	5.
SAMUEL REEVES	2.	ADAM HILL	6.
THOMAS HORTON	3.	WILLIAM R. SMALL	7.
EDWARD WOODHALL*	4.	SIMEON SLATER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal with a bob bell. This is the first peal in this method rung on the bells

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 15, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A. DUMSDAY'S TEN-PART.

HENRY CHANDLER	*Treble.*	EDWARD BRACKLEY	5.
CHARLES BLACKMAN	2.	GEORGE SMART	6.
FREDERICK LUXFORD	3.	HENRY COOK	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	WILLIAM SHORT	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

This is the first College Youth peal by eight members of the Sussex County Association. Messrs. Brackley and Smart hail from Steyning; Blackman and Luxford from Arundel.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Monday, January, 16, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD BONNER*	*Treble.*	*GEORGE BELL	5.
WILLIAM ALDRIDGE*	2.	‡JAMES W. LEONARD	6.
WILLIAM BELL	3.	*GEORGE NEWMAN	7.
WILLIAM HARDEN†	4.	DAVID HALL	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

*First peal in the method. †First peal on a bob-bell. ‡First peal as conductor.

HEYWOOD.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 12, 1888, *in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22¾ cwt. in Eb.

JNO. MILLETT	*Treble.*	W. H. WALMSLEY	5.
C. J. BUTTERWORTH	2.	W. R. BARRETT	6.
FRANK BIRTWISTLE	3.	ERNEST BISHOP	7.
JAS. PILKINGTON	4.	JNO. HARRISON	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Mr. Butterworth hails from Durham, and is a member of the Durham Association. Mr. Birtwistle hails from Rochdale, Mr. Bishop from Bury, the rest belong to Heywood.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE RINGMER BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, January 11, 1888, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

ALFRED SLARKS	*Treble.*	J. T. RICKMAN, ESQ.,	4.
ALBERT E. PARIS	2.	GEORGE C. HAMMOND	5.
HARRY JONES	3.	CHARLES PAINTER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE C. HAMMOND.

This is the first peal on the bells by a local company, and is the first peal by all the ringers except the conductor. Average age of ringers, only 19 years.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SHARROW.—On Monday evening, January 16th, with the bells deeply muffled, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. and and 9 mins., as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Wm. Garnett, Esq., of Lucan House, Sharow, a well-known and much respected parishioner, who was interred at this Church on Monday, January 9th. A. Pratt, 1; J. Baines, 2; J. Flowers, 3; A. Clark, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pick, 6; T. Clark, 7; T. Fawbert, 8. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Friday, January 6th, at St. Modwen's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Orme, 1; J. Hicklin, 2; W. J. Smith, 3; L. Bullock (conductor), 4; G. Appleby, 5; J. Walker, 6; J. Jaggar, 7; J. Carvell, 8. Composed by J. Carter.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Herts).—On Saturday, January 14th, at St. Michael's church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. C. Prior, 1; †W. Prior, 2; †W. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; †G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; †I. Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. H. J. Tucker belongs to Bishop's Stortford, and the rest belong to Stanstead, Essex. †Longest length in the method.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD.—On Tuesday evening, January 17th, at the parish church, on the back eight, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 16 mins. *J. Hardcastle, 1; *S. Clark, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; T. Pollitt (composer), 4; J. H. Fisher, 5; J. Broadley, 6; B. F. Lamb, 7; F. London (conductor), 8. Tenor 27 cwt. *First date touch.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 18th, at St. Martin's Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes) in 1 hr. and 7 mins. F. Crossley, 1; J. Whiteley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; S. Stocks, 4; W. Wood, 5; W. F. Prince, 6; G. Lawton, 7; H. Marshall, 8. Composed by W. Walker, of Leeds, and conducted by W. F. Prince.

DISS (Norfolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday evening, January 10th, four members of the local company met at the house of Mr. J. Souter, and rang on handbells, retained in hand, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broom, 3-4; J. Souter, 5-6; B. Francis, 7-8. Composed by F. Harding, of Eastbourne, and conducted by J. Souter.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 8th, at St. Edmund's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. Searle, 1; S. Herbert, 2; H. Swift, 3; E. Pitt (composer and conductor), 4; W. Goss, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; S. Meadows, 8.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, January 14th, a date touch (1888 changes), in 54 mins., being nine 120's and eighty-eight of Grandsire, and six 120's of Stedman. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2-3-4; Mrs. Washbrook, 5-6.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 16th, for practice at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 16 mins. W. Bumpstead, 1; F. Day (conductor), 2; W. Gooderham, 3; R. E. Gibbs, 4; G. Murton, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble, 8.

HULL.—On Tuesday, January 3rd, at Holy Trinity Church, a date of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. Pollard, 3; C. Bennett, 4; W. Southwick, 5; R. Chaffer, 6; F. Drabble, 7; H. Harrison, 8. The above touch which is in four parts, contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

Miscellaneous.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Christmas morning, at the parish church, six members of the local band rang 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. S. E. Romans, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Also on Wednesday, December 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; S. E. Romans (first 720 in the method), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, January 3rd, three six-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; G. Miles, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs in 27 mins. S. E. Romans, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mithell, 3; R. J. Wilkins (first 720 in the method), 4; G. Miles, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also a 60 and a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), conducted by H. Mitchell, and a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), conducted by A. A. Waite, in 55½ mins. *R. Brunsden, 1; *S. E. Romans, 2; G. Miles, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. *First 720 in the method.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Thursday evening, January 12th, at the church of All Saints' six members of the above Society, with Messrs. A. and J. York made an attempt to ring Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, but failed after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins., owing to a change course in the third course of the eighth part. A. Howell, 1; H. Tucker, 2; G. Pearse, 3; J. York, 4; W. W. Porch, 5; A. York, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; F. Gooding, 8. The bells were half-muffled, it being the fourteenth anniversary of the death of the late Mr. William Smith, who was for many years steeplekeeper of the above church, and who also composed and conducted the long peal of 10,139 changes of Grandsire Caters, rung on the bells of Christ Church, on Tuesday, March 14th, 1837. Also on Sunday afternoon, January 15th, for Divine Service, at the church of St. James', 416 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. Pearse, 1; A. Howell, 2; G. Pearse, 3; G. Pymm, 4; W. Paddock, 5; W. W. Porch, 6; H. Tucker, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. This is the first touch in the method ever rang in this city, and the first by any member of the Society.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, January 1st, at St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. West, 1; A. E. Hind, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; C. Tolley, 4; W. Finch, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; A. Browning, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; W. Baston, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 5th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Hind, 1; P. A. Hind, 2; J. West, 3; W. Baston (conductor), 4; C. Tolley, 5; A. E. Hind, 6. On Monday, January 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. West, 1; P. A. Hind, 2; C. Tolley, 3; A. E. Hind (conductor), 4; W. Baston, 5; W. Finch, 6. On Thursday, January 12th, 720 Plain Bob. K. Payne (first 720), 1; P. A. Hind, 2; C. Tolley, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Baston (conductor), 5; A. E. Hind, 6.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, 5th, by the local band, at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Brett, 4; R. Grimes, 5; W. Wright, 6. On Sunday, January 8th, a 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Allen, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Hill (conductor), 5; W. Wright, 6. On Thursday, January 12th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Brett, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 360 of London Singles. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Allen, 5; R. Grimes, 6. On Sunday, January 15th, 720 London Singles (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. First 720 of London Single by all.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Chiming.*—On Sunday evening, January 15th, 360 Double Oxford Bob Minor (silent). A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. Also 294 Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. This tower is now in the hands of Messrs. Warner.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, January 16th, for practice at St. Martin's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. Hill, 3; B. Starkey, 4; G. Hughes, 5; S. Jesson (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. H. Mills, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; S. Jesson, 3; A. Hill, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W.

R. Small, 6. And two six-scores of Stedman Doubles, each called differently. W. R. Small, 1; A. Hill, 2; B. Starkey, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; H. Mills, 6. Also two six-scores of Stedman Doubles, each called differently. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. Hill, 3; S. Jesson, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; E. Goodreds, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 17th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. Sanders, 1; *G. Croucher, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6. *First in the method, and hails from Reigate.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 15th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, being 5½ six-scores with plain leads, and five with extremes, each called differently, in 38 mins. T. Griffiths, 1; J. F. Hastings, 2; H. Oldnalls, 3; C. Beaman (conductor), 4; W. Martin, 5; F. Hinton, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Friday, January 13th, for practice at All Saints' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. G. King (aged 15), 1; E. Trindell (aged 15), 2; T. Gaiger, 3; G. Petrie, 4; H. Bryant (first 720 in the method), 5; J. Trindell (conductor), 6.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Robinson, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; R. Arnold, 4; F. Saunders, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. Saunders, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Bridger, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. E. Moses, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5; J. Box, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, December 22nd, at Emmanuel Church, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 52 mins. J. Hinton, 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. Sevier, 3; F. Perrin, 4; E. Beake, 5; G. Daltry (conductor), 6; F. Price, 7; G. Stallard, 8. W. Sevier hails from Gloucester.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, January 7th, for practice at the parish church of St. Michael, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 8th, for Divine Service, 360 of Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 11th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Wednesday, January 11th, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Robinson, 1; Fredk. Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; W. Sadler (conductor), 4; F. Sanders, 5. Also two 120's of Bob Doubles. J. Robinson, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. On Sunday, January 15th, for morning service, 360 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Robinson, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; W. Sadler (conductor), 4; F. Sanders, 5. Also 240 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Bowyer, 1; F. Sanders, 2; W. Sadler, 3; F. Sanders, 4; J. Poplett (conductor), 5. Tenor 10 cwt.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday January 15th, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. W. J. Cook, 1; J. Sloper, 2; E. Saxby, 3; F. French, 4; G. Conyard, 5; J. Saxby, 6; J. Garard, 7; W. Saxby, 8.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, January 15th, 224 of Grandsire Triples. J. Tinsley (conductor), 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; S. Aitkins, 7-8. Also courses of Grandsire Major, S. Atkins, 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. Tinsley, 7-8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 15th, for Divine Service in the morning 546 of Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; W. Mundy (conductor), 3; S. Binfield, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Carmell, 8. On Monday evening, January 16th, seven members met the Rev. G. F. Coleridge for a peal of Stedman Triples, but on reaching the mid-way single the conductor called stand, owing to a change-course. W. Mundy, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 19th, the Eye company met for practice and rang a date touch (1888 changes) of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 15 mins. F. Day (conductor), 1; G. Day, 2; W. Gooderham, 3; R. E. Gibbs, 4; G. Murton, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble, 8.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, January 16th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 560 Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halesbury, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 14th, for practice, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, 336 Bob Triples, and 400 Bob Major. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; Wm. Snell, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7; Wm. Moore, 8.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 3rd, for practice, a touch of 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major. P. C. S. Scott (conductor), 1; A. Ambrose, 2; J. Slater, 3; Z. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; J. Bird, 6; O. Garwood, 7; S. Slater, 8. On Wednesday, December 14th, with the bells deeply muffled, several touches of Bob Major, as a mark of respect to Sir Hyde Parker, whose funeral took place on that day. J. Slater, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; Z. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; J. Bird, 6; O. Garwood, 7; S. Slater (conductor), 8. On Christmas day, for morning service, 464 Bob Major. J. Slater, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; J. Bird, 6; O. Garwood, 7; G. Hammond (late of Melford, but now of Ringmer, conductor), 8. For the afternoon service, 224 Kent Treble Bob Major, and 336 Bob Major; and for the evening service, 560 Bob Major. On Monday evening, December 26th, the company assembled at the "Black Lion" Hotel, and partook of a capital dinner, kindly given to them by the Rev. C. J. Martyn, the esteemed rector. S. Slater took the chair, and G. Hammond, the vice-chair. After dinner the chairman proposed the health of the Rector, which was well received by all present. The evening was very pleasantly spent in friendly conversation on ringing matters. On Thursday, December 29th, the company met for a peal, but through a slight mistake it was not attempted, but a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung instead. P. C. S. Scott, 1; S. Slater, 2; H. Duce, 3; J. Bird, 4; O. Garwood, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 31st, at 7.30, the bells were raised, and 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung. J. Bird, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; H. Duce, 3; O. Garwood (conductor), 4; P. C. S. Scott, 5; G. Hammond, 6. At 11 o'clock, for the midnight service, 560 Bob Major. After 12 o'clock a date touch of Bob Major was attempted, but was lost after ringing about 1000 changes. Z. Slater, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; O. Garwood, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; J. Bird, 6; P. C. S. Scott, 7; G. Hammond (conductor), 8.

PUDSEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, January 14th, at the church of St. Lawrence, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Sugden (conductor), 1; J. Ross (composer), 2; J. Langstaff, 3; W. Bolland, 4; J. Cordingley, 5; S. Langstaff, 6; G. Bolland, 7; J. Haley, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. The above was rung by special request of W. Sugden, who has come over from America, he not having had a pull since he left England seven years ago.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, January 15th, for evensong, at St. Margaret's church, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Rayner, 1; J. Tullett, 2; G. Lindoff, R.E., 3; A. Osborne, 4; A. Haigh, 5; *M. Warwick, R.E. (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. *Late of Bedford.

SCOTHORNE (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, January 15th, six of the Lincoln company visited the above place, and rang three 6-scores each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. T. Walker, 1; W. D. Brown, 2; H. Maidens (conductor), 3; C. Johnson, 4; C. Wells, 5. Tenor 11 cwt. The bells are a Jubilee peal, and the work of casting and hanging was executed by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. The tone of the bells is excellent and space has been left for another bell, it is to be hoped that funds will be forthcoming for that purpose. The band were hospitably entertained by the Rev. E. M. Barry, and his family at the vicarage. The reverend gentleman exhibits considerable interest in change-ringing. Several 6-scores were rung, in which R. Watson took part, he rung the treble in the first 6-score upon the bells. The local ringers are most enthusiastic in wanting to learn change-ringing, which is a step in the right direction. The company returned to Lincoln much pleased with their visit.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 15th, for Divine service, the local company rang 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. E. Pagett, 1; C. Barret, 2; T. Lees, 3; H. Harris, 4; G. W. Pagett, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; J. Crump, 7.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 8th, at St. Marie's (R.C.) church, a date touch of 1888 changes of Grandsire Triples, containing Queens, Tittums, and the twenty-four 6-7's, in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. A. Dixon, 1; *T. Sarel, 2; J. Mulligan (conductor), 3;

G. O. Dixon, 4; E. Woodward, 5; W. Biggin, 6; T. Dixon, 7; G. Taylor, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. *Longest touch. Composed by John Carter of Birmingham. The date touch of 1887, rung at this church on Christmas Eve, is the composition of Mr. W. Howard, of York.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, January 17th, at All Saints' church, 560 Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 6; J. Lee (Foxearth), 7; A. Scott and H. Brackett, 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown. 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Harper, 5; W. Gridley, 6; J. Lee, 7; A. Scott and W. Bacon, 8. Both touches were conducted by Arthur Scott.

WINTERTON (Norfolk).—On Sunday, January 1st, at the parish church, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. W. Empson, 1; J. King, 2; R. Brown, 3; H. Powles, 4; W. P. Molyneux (conductor), 5. And on Saturday, January 14th, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins, W. Empson (conductor), 1; J. King, 2; E. Reeves, 3; R. Brown, 4; H. Powles, 5; W. P. Molyneux, 6. An attempt was made for the second, but came to grief in the second lead over the half. E. Reeves hails from Marsham, the rest are local men.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

SIR,—I see in last week's "BELL NEWS" a gentleman states that here is an extensive field for the furtherance of the objects of our Guild in the north part of Oxfordshire. Well, I beg to state that I accompanied our worthy Secretary, the Rev. Dolben Paul, a short time ago down to Banbury, to see if anything could be done to further the interests of our Association in that district, and I believe Adderbury was one of the towers that promised to join together with Banbury, but I don't know if ever they have done so up to the present. Perhaps your correspondent could pursuade the Adderbury men to fall in our ranks if they have not yet done so, as we are very anxious to get more towers in that district, were change-ringing is altogether unknown. I write this to inform the exercise that it is not our fault it is so. J. W. WASHBROOK.

P.S.—I see that the alteration I proposed to make in my Grandsire Caters, has not the desired effect, so must apologise.

THE TRINITY PEALS AND THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

SIR,—I should not have troubled you again on this subject had Mr. Tyack confided himself to the truth. He says that he only received one letter and a post-card from me, those two I sent to the society's meeting house, but what about the number of letters that I have sent to him at Peckham. I do not know if he received them or not, but he answered them himself as I have some of his letters by me now; if he received those letters from me unbeknowing to the Society, I do not think that he has done what a secretary ought to have done. I expected that the letters I wrote to him would have been read at the next meeting of the Society. Now, if he denies having received my letters, if the master of the Seciety will write to me for the answers, I will send them to him. This is an extract from one of them :—

1, Nutbrook Street, Peckham, S.E., Nov., 1887.—Dear Sir,—I am obliged by your letter of the 24th inst. I did hear that you had been to Waterloo one night when I was absent, but I cannot learn what your proposal was. Why the member who was acting as secretary *pro tem* could not have made everything right I am at a loss to understand. The peals are to be booked as recorded in "THE BELL NEWS," the difficulty about "reversed" having been cleared up by some correspoondence which I had with Mr. John Carter, and an interview which Mr. Baron had with that gentleman.—Yours fathfully, W. Tyack, Sec."

So you see it took them four months to make up their minds whether they would book the peals, or not. When we went for the peal at first it was to have been a St. James's peal, and meeting one short we started for it on seven, but after about an hour's good striking it came to grief, the master of the St. James's society, who voted against the Tottenham peal, being one of the seven. I daresay if we had got this peal he would have voted against this just the same. G. B. LUCAS.

2, *Queen Street, White Hart Lane, Tottenham.*

THE "JAMES RUDD" FUND.

Mr. Ireland wishes to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following sums towards this fund, and begs to state, in response to many of Rudd's friends, that the time for closing the fund is extended to the last of this month.

	s.	d.
Mr. Thos. Clark, Keldare villas, near Ripon	2	6
Mr. Sam Slater, Glemsford...	1	0
The St. Mary-le-Tower Society Ipswich (per Mr. I. S. Alexander), 14s.; and Mr. Prentice, Ipswich, 1s.	15	0

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JANUARY 16th, 1888.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Wednesday, January 11th, an attempt for Brook's peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief after ringing 4836 changes in 2 hrs 57 mins. J. Reilly, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; C. Tyler, 4; G. A. King, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. Also on Sunday, January 8th, 756 Stedman Triples by the above. And on Sunday, January 15th, for Morning Service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. Also for afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; —. Allfrey, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; J. Jay, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; H. Cornwall, 7; W. Robinson, 8. And for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 17½ mins. J. Jay (conductor), 1; G. Thwaites, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; H. Weston, 5; A. A. Fuller, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also on Thursday, January 5th, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 9 mins. H. Eves, 1; W. Allfrey, 2; G. King, 3; G. Biggerstaffe, 4; G. Hill, 4; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; G. Murray, 8. And on Thursday, January 12th, 504 Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. H. Eves, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaffe, 4; A. Marshall, 5; J. Fisher, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Reilly, 8. Also on Sunday, January 15th, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. P. Allfrey, 1; J. Salmon, 2; G. Hili, 3; G. Biggerstaffe 4; A. Marshall, 5; W. Allfrey (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Reilly, 8.

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Sunday, January 8th, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45½ mins. R. Nash, 1; A. P. Bennett (Eastbourne), 2; A. Bennett (Brighton), 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. On Saturday, January 14th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. and 11 mins. J. Parsons, 1; R. Nash, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; W. Gibson, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (composer and conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. On Sunday, January 15th, for service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. H. Mitchell, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; R. Walters, 4; H. Bowell, 5; *D. Denman, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

By the Christ Church, Eastbourne branch, at Christ Church.—On Monday, January 16th, a 5040 in seven different Minor methods, on six bells, in 3 hrs. and 1 min. (for particulars see peal column.)

By the Ringmer branch, at Ringmer.—On Sunday, January 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 47 mins. *C. Painter, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; H. Jones, 3; J. T. Rickman, 4; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 5; *T. Miller, 6. *First quarter-peal.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, January 15th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Morris, 1; T. Searle, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Matthews, 1; J. Woolgar, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

N. B.—The peal rung at Steyning, on December 31st, was conducted by Geo. Smart, instead of Chas. Tyler, as published.

By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Saturday, January 14th, a 5040 of Oxford Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. (for particulars see peal column). And on Saturday, January 7th, a 5040 of Oxford Bob Triples, by members of the Warnham and Horsham branches (for particulars see peal column). And on Sunday, January 15th, a 560 of Grandsire Triples. F. Luxford, 1; C. Blackman (conductor), 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Charman, 4; G. Smart, 5; E. Brackley, 6; H. Chandler, 7; G. Woodman, 8.

By the Worth branch at Worth.—On Sunday, January 1st., a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; F. Rice, 2; J. Tullett, 3; B. Payne, 4; W. Denman, 5; G. Illman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Warnham Court Bob. W. Owden, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; B. Payne, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 4th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23½ mins. J. Tullett, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

The severe strain upon the Bishop of Truro, caused by the responsibilities of the ordination and the diocesan conference, following so closely on the consecration of the cathedral, has obliged him to consult Sir Andrew Clark, who has strictly forbidden him to do any work for the present, except such as can be done by a Bishop—that is, confirmations and consecrations. With very deep regret, knowing well the inconvenience that it must cause, his lordship will, therefore, be unable to fulfil the engaaements which he had made to preach in various churches of his diocese.

THE WAKEFIELD BISHOPRIC.

It will be a matter of unfeigned satisfaction to all who have the interests of the Church at heart, to learn that the sum required for the foundation of the new bishopric of Wakefield has at last been raised. As most of our readers know, the same announcement was made about a year ago, but unfortunately it proved premature. The committee had been depending on a promise of £10,000 from the Additional Home Bishoprics Society, but it was found that, partly owing to a confusion by which the same subscriptions were reckoned both by the committee and the society, this important sum was not forthcoming. It was a thankless task to turn once more to a public which thought it had heard the last of the subscription list, and we imagine that the Bishop ot Ripon and the energetic secretaries to the fund would confess that the last £10,000 has given them more trouble to raise than all the rest of the fund. Their labours, however, were lightened by the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, who promised £4,000 on condition that the remainder was raised by the end of the year. The condition has been fulfilled, the Ladies' Committee have secured the amount required for the Episcopal residence, and there is now, therefore, nothing but the inevitable legal formalities to hinder the appointment of a Bishop and the inauguration of his work.

The bishopric has, indeed, come none too soon. Every day seems to add to the labours demanded of a Bishop. Even in a small and agricultural diocese the work is quite as much as one man can be expected to do, and when the sphere of his labours lies in such a district as that which is peopled by the vast manufacturing towns of South Yorkshire, it is obvious to any observer that much that ought to be done has to be left undone. Ripon, itself only a portion of a an older diocese, presents the peculiar difficulty of the combination of a populous district, which is little less than one vast town with the remote and thinly-peopled valleys of the north-west. If therefore, the Church was to retain the hold which Dr. Hook's great labours had given her in Leeds, and to acquire a position in other parts of the diocese which she has never yet occupied, it was absolutely necessary that the supervision which could not be given by one Bishop should be exercised by two. We are convinced that, as in the other new dioceses, Wakefield will at once feel the effect of the division of labour, while the work in Ripon will be carried on with redoubled vigour.

But the history of the foundation of the see of Wakefield suggests some other considerations than those of rejoicing over a great task accomplished, and of encouraging prospects for the future of the new diocese. Ten years have elapsed since the subscription list was first opened for the Wakefield bishopric. In view of the numerous schemes that are now being put forward for the creation of new sees in various parts of the country, it is natural to ask whether we are to expect that each of the endowments required will cost as much time and trouble as that of Wakefield. Indeed, on comparing the progress made by each in succession of the Sees founded under the Act of 1878, it becomes a question whether we ought not to expect an even greater delay in future. It is, of course, only fair to point out that, though the subscriptions for Wakefield were began ten years ago, not more than a quarter of the sum was raised for nearly seven years. Various circumstances hindered the active prosecution of the design till the appointment of Bishop Boyd Carpenter to the see of Ripon. Since that time some £68,000 has been subscribed, a result of which there is no reason to be ashamed. But we have to look at it in view of future requirements. If no less than £3,600 a year is to be the endowment of every fresh bishopric, and if it is to be raised, as it has been raised, in the cases of which we have experience, we do not believe that it will be possible to subdivide many more dioceses. We do not indeed hold that the *minimum* amount required is much in excess of the income necessary for an English Bishop under existing circumstances. As has been often pointed out of late, the demands upon his expenditure are so great that it would be wrong to cut his income to a much lower point. But if the sum has to be raised, we believe that the method of raising it will have to be altered. Whether the plan adopted be that suggested by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and supported by ourselves some months ago, or whether other schemes, such as the sail of some of the great Episcopal palaces, be brought in to supplement his proposal, is not material to our present purpose. We only wish to point out that whatever new method be adopted, the present method will have to be discontinued or greatly modified. It would not be, perhaps, unreasonable to expect from the subscriptions of individual Churchmen some considerable proportion of the sum required, though we would rather see their liberality applied to the provision of the diocesan apparatus which a new bisbopric necessarily lacks; but the experience of the Wakefield bishopric is at all events sufficient to show that it will be useless in the future to look to them for the whole amount. We sincerely trust that the lesson will not be thrown away upon those who will have to conduct the proceedings for the further increase of English dioceses. It would be lamentable were the zeal and energy of Churchmen to be wasted in the ungrateful task of extracting large sums of money from men who are already beset with calls on every side. And the evil would be intolerable if it is shown, as we are convinced it will be shown, that each demand takes longer to satisfy than its predecessors, and that every bishopric thus blocks the way of others not less needed than itself. The increase of the Episcopate in Surrey and Kent, in Bristol, in East Anglia, is so important for the future of the English Church that we sincerely hope that no pains will be spared to amend the methods hitherto adopted for effecting it.—*Guardian.*

Church News.

The West Stranton Estate Company has just given a piece of land at West Hartlepool for a new church, towards which the Bishop of Durham has offered £1,000.

Canon MacColl, who is in residence at Ripon, is suffering from a fall, and is advised to take a short rest. Owing to the absence of the Dean from home, the duties of Canon MacColl have been undertaken by Canon Badcock, who preached on Sunday morning. In the evening the cathedral pulpit was occupied by the Bishop.

The vicar of Sudbury (the Rev. C. J. Stower), stated on Sunday-night that the persons who had been guilty of misbehaviour at the late service on New Year's Eve, had expressed sorrow and begged for forgiveness. Under these circumstance, he had decided not to prosecute them.

The deanery of St. Asaph is about to become vacant through the resignation of the Very Rev. Herbert A. James, who was appointed in 1886. A memorial is being numerously signed for presentation to the Bishop, recommending him to appoint to the vacant dignity Canon Howell Evans, who has just resigned the living of Oswestry for that of Potton, Bedfordshire.

The Bishop of Winchester having collated the Rev. W. W. Perrin, who for the last six years had been vicar of St. Luke's, Southampton, to the vicarage of Godalming, an address, signed by upwards of 1,250 persons, was presented to the rev. gentleman, begging him not to accept the appointment. A petition was also sent to the Bishop requesting his lordship to consent to Mr. Perrin's remaining at Southampton. His lordship granted the petition and Mr. Perrin has since sailed on a holiday trip to the West Indies.

In view of the fact that, through the agricultural depression, many beneficed clergy are "starved for books," "H.," King-street, Oxford, writes that he will do what he can, with the help of friends, to lend a volume or two at a time to those who are really in this present distress. A reference should be sent. and preference will be given to old Oxonians, in the hope that somebody at Cambridge will also make a beginning.

A gentleman has written to the director of the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, Bridge House, Blackfriars-bridge, E C., offering a donation of £50 to facilitate the proposed extension of the hospital and dispensary aid afforded to sick and injured smacksmen while away on the fishing grounds, provided that nine other donors will contribute an equal sum.

On the last day of the old year Daniel Westley died at Piddington, Northants, aged ninety. He had been sexton forty-four years, and had buried more than a thousand persons in the churchyard. He was also parish clerk at Horton, where the office was held by members of his family for 116 years.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co., Printers, Exeter.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Peace be with you, my masters, and good will."

Your pages of Saturday last are of a very interesting character, and afford sufficient evidence of the increasing vitality manifest in connection with the Exercise all over the country. Let us hope this new life and vigour will be a prominent feature of this year, and that at our next "watch night" we may be able to say that 1888 has far eclipsed all its predecessors in the march of improvement.

* * * * *

I had an impression that Mr. Samuel Marsh "pitched into" Mr. E. Rostron rather severely anent the peal which that gentlemen had sent up, but when I ran over the peal and found it false in so many of its courses, I ceased to wonder at Mr. Marsh's outburst of indignation. I referred to this subject a fortnight ago, and while very reluctant to mention it again, cannot let this pass by without once more pressing our friends to take every possible care to see that their productions are perfectly true before sending them for insertion. Such a course would be manifestly better for their own reputation, and for the benefit of "THE BELL NEWS" and the Exercise at large.

* * * * *

The Vicar of Taunton is evidently determined to put an end to "Gravestone Delight" and such other monotonous *methods* on his bells. Let us all wish every him success in his endeavours, and hope that he will receive such support from the change-ringers of Somerset as will enable him speedily to let his parishioners hear for themselves the great superiority of good scientific change-ringing over the stuff previously performed by the artists of Churchyard Bob notoriety.

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I notice a date touch has been rung at Dewsbury (Yorks.) and should much like to have seen the burly forms of two well-known Yorkshire tenor ringers as they manipulated the two trebles in the touch. I fancy they would feel they had got at the wrong end of the circle before they finished.

* * * * * * *

Speaking of date touches, as is usual at this time of year, a oodly number of compositions appear in your pages. I venture to suggest, would it not be preferable if every one of these touches sent up had some particular good feature about it, and not be thought worthy of a place in your columns simply because it was the precise length?

* * * * * * *

Your record of peals accomplished seems to be of a rather more varied character than usual. Of the thirteen reported, five were on Minor methods, four of Grandsire Triples, two of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Stedman Triples, and one in fourteen methods on five bells.

* * * * * *

The inhabitants of Steyning can certainly not complain that they did not have sufficient ringing during the last week of the old year; but I am tempted to think the four peals rung in that week must have been somewhat monotonous to the ringers, seeing that (including also the two peals previously rung) the whole were composed of but ten methods, and were rung by nine men.

I do not mention this in the least by way of disparagement towards the Steyning men. Quite the reverse. They are evidently an energetic company who don't mean to "let the grass grow under their feet," and I wish them every success in peal ringing. What I desire to see is—not their ringing the same methods over and over again, but their accomplishment of peals in other and more difficult ones, which I feel sure they are capable of mastering: and for which achievement no one will be more ready to give them praise than your humble servant. In short, I would urge them to follow the advice given by the Hon. Sec. of their County Association, to "maintain their position not only as regarded quantity, but quality also."

* * * * *

This reminds me of the rather "high-falutin" style of speech delivered by that gentleman at Brighton, on the 10th instant. No one, I imagine, would attempt to deprive Mr. Attree of any satisfaction derivable from the fact of his Association having rung the greatest number of peals during last year; but I think he was certainly ill-advised in attributing jealousy as the cause of critical remarks by brother ringers respecting their performances. And considering the manner in which the Sussex total was "rushed up" during the last two or three weeks of that year, he should not be surprised if some of his brother-strings were of opinion that this sudden outburst of peal ringing on the part of a few of the Sussex members had for its object not so much the advancement of change-ringing, as the desire to head the year's list of peals. It does not follow that there is jealousy in such an opinion; when a thing appears palpable one is prone to set it down accordingly—rightly or wrongly. But as I may have occasion to refer to this subject on a future occasion, for the present I leave it with the simple remark that the charge of jealousy most certainly does not concern me.

* * * * *

The respected vicar of Drayton, I see, has been again experiencing the vicissitudes common to our craft. One success out of three attempts is doubtless not very pleasing, especially when the two failures were due to perfectly unavoidable causes, and not to any fault on the part of the ringers.

* * * * *

I know of a company which met for a peal of Treble Bob last Saturday, and after ringing three hours and twelve minutes, the conductor discovered that he had missed a bob two or three courses back, so consequently another good attempt came to grief. But what puzzles me most in this affair, is that the mistake was not discovered at the time, seeing that the composer himself was also ringing in it. I have often thought that it would be a good plan if in attempting a peal, another member of the company should study well the calling and coursing order of the bells, as a precaution against change-courses and miscalls.

FREE LANCE.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—(ESTABLISHED 1868).

AT the annual business meeting of this Society held on Wednesday, January 4th, 1888, the following members were elected as officers for the ensuing year:—Mr. W. Baron, sen., Master; Mr. G. Wild, Secretary; Mr. W. Baron, jun., Steward; Mr. C. E. Malim, Treasurer. Members are requested to attend the meeting at Waterloo, on Wednesday, January 25th (ringing at 8 o'clock sharp), to make arrangements for the annual dinner which is to take place next month. Further particulars will be duly announced. G. WILD, *Hon. Sec.*

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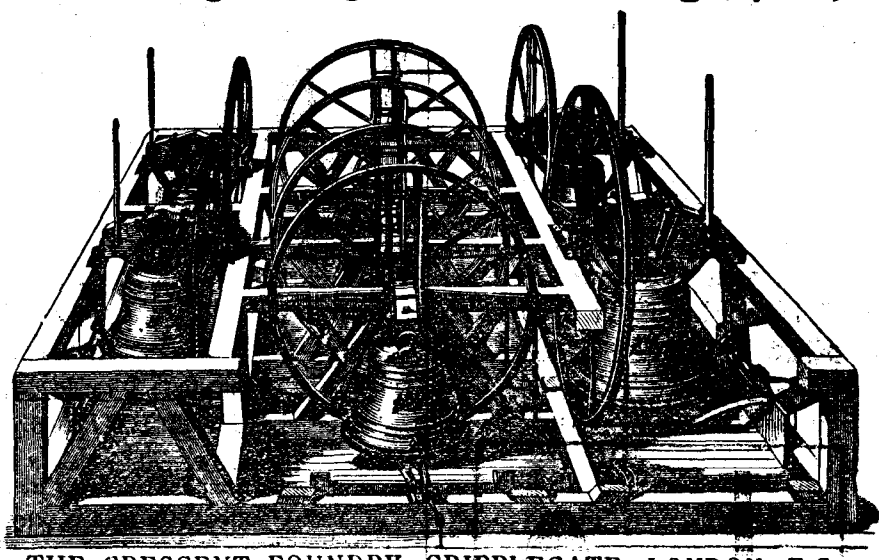

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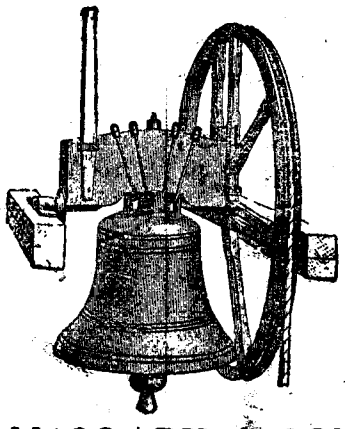

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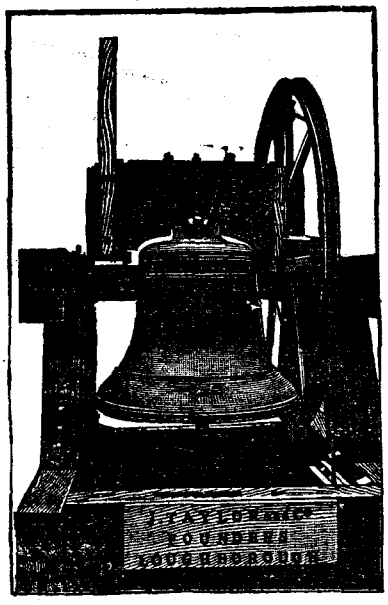

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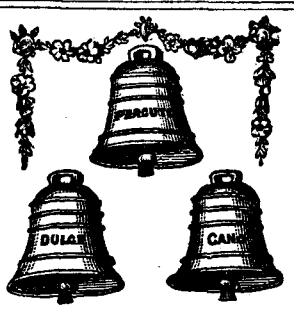

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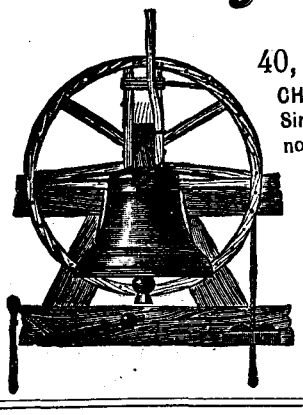

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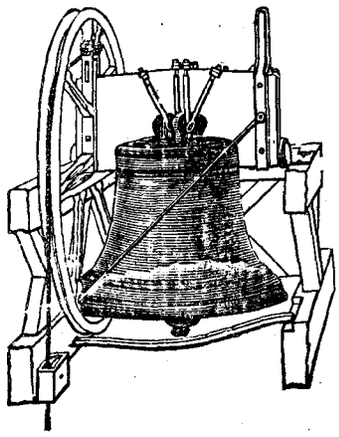

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THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

THE Annual Meeting of the above branch was held at Boyne Hill, on Saturday, January 21st. The Master, President, and officers of the branch and about fifty honorary and ringing members were present. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and signed, the President offered a cordial welcome to those present, and said that the large number attending, and the general enthusiasm shown, seemed to be the gratifying result of the Master's and his own remarks and counsels at last year's meeting. He noticed a peal rung last Christmas-tide in his own belfry, of 5040 Grandsire Triples, Thompson's three-part reversed, conducted by Mr. Washbrook, whose instruction was already shewing excellent results in that and other belfries. The President urged improvement in the attendance of members at the Festival Service, impressing upon them that as Church officers it was their duty to be present in order to carry out the chief object of the Guild. He concluded with a graceful recognition of the presence of several ladies as hon. members.

The Secretary (*pro tem.*) then read the balance-sheet for the year, and observed that the number of members remained about the same. Several members had left the diocese, but one new belfry (Bray) had brought in eight additional members, whilst other belfries had increased. He took the opportunity of welcoming amongst them the Rev. C. A. Raymond, the preacher of the day.

The balance-sheet and report were then adopted, and the President, officers, and committee having resigned their offices, the following appointments were made: President, Rev. A. H. Drummond; Secretary, Rev. R. P. Newhouse; Treasurer, Mr. Edwin Rogers; Committee, A. H. Cocks, Esq. (Marlow); Messrs. J. W. Wilkins (Boyne Hill); C. Hanlon (Bray); J. Parker (Farnham Royal); W. Wilder (Slough); J. Howard (Wooburn); and E. Keeley (Cookham), unattached. The other belfries not being represented at the meeting, no election was made for them.

A vote of thanks to the late Secretary (the Rev. R. E. Spencer), who has left the Diocese, was carried unanimously.

Mr. NEWHOUSE read a letter from the Guild Secretary (Rev. Dolben Paul), recommending the consolidation of the offices of Branch Treasurer and Secretary, but it was decided to keep to the present arrangement.

The PRESIDENT, after having with the other officers returned thanks for his election, said he hoped that the members of the committee would endeavour to attend the meetings, and proceeded to thank the honorary members for their presence and support, coupling with his motion the name of Captain Robson.

The REV. S. F. MARSHALL (Farnham Royal), and Captain Robson having spoken, the Master (Rev. F. E. Robinson), who was received with cheers, made a short and interesting speech. After congratulating the branch on its efficient condition, organization, and balance in hand, he gave some details of the general work of the Guild, which he said had been seven years in existence and was becoming more and more appreciated. Numbers had increased both in members and peals, and till the end of the past year its record of fifty peals would have placed it third in the Guilds of the kingdom, but Sussex came in with a rush and took first place. The Master expressed his readiness to assist the Guild in every way by counsel, taking part in peals, and last, but not least, in saving expense and trouble by inspection of bells and belfries. He congratulated the branch on securing Mr. Washbrook's services as instructor, and hoped that the result would be the formation of peal ringing bands to visit various belfries. He concluded by drawing attention to the moral and religious value of change-ringing, not for competition only, but as a moral discipline and offering to God, and wished all present a happy new year.

Evensong was at 6 p.m., and was attended by a large number of the members and their friends. The preacher took for his text Psalm cxxii. 1, dwelt on the religious aspect of bells and bell-ringing. Tracing the history of bells in the Jewish and Christian Church, where their use marked the beginning of liberty for worship, he commented on their use at marriage, death, and church festivals, and the ordinary services. Hence, he said, they were constant reminders of the rest and worship of Heaven and the heavenly life on earth. The Guild was therefore an appropriate way of recognising and maintaining their use as parts of Church worship and of reminding the ringers of their position as Church officers and as acting for the clergy, who originally rang the bells themselves. The personal character of a ringer must therefore, declared the preacher, necessarily be high, and he looked forward to the day when every ringer would be a communicant. Change-ringing, as the highest development of the art, had a great moral and spiritual value. It called for patience and attention, energy and application, and personal recollection, while in its complex aspect it seemed to symbolise the Communion of Saints. As a bell before it could be rung must be raised, so ought the exercise to raise and sustain the spiritual tone of those who practised it, and make them better servants of Almighty God.

Ringing began at 2.30 p.m., and before tea and after evensong many successful and harmonius touches were rung by the local company, assisted by the Master and members of other belfries.

An excellent tea was supplied by Mr. Spindler in the boys' school at 4.30 p.m., and the whole meeting was one of the best attended and most satistactory held for many years past.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Wednesday, January 18th, at Tringrith, Bedfordshire, the marriage of the Rev. William Wing Carew Baker, Rector of Milton Bryant, Beds., with Miss Catherine Anna, youngest daughter of the Rev. Truman Tanqueray, Rector of Tringrith, was celebrated. The Rev. T. Wingate Pearse, Rector of Walton, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Edward Tanqueray, brother of the bride, officiated.

At the practice meeting of the change-ringers at Woburn, held at Mr. C. Herbert's house, on the Wednesday evening preceding the above, the Aspley Guise company being represented, Mr. Chibnall however being unavoidably absent, Mr. Herbert stated that he had been deputed on behalf of the Bedfordshire Association to perform a very pleasing duty, viz.: that of presenting on their behalf, to the Rev. Mr. Baker, a fine art gold bronze tiazza. He had received a communication from Mr. Isaac Hills, on behalf of the Bedford company, desiring him to convey to Mr. Baker from all members on that side, all the joy, health, happiness and prosperity it was possible for them to wish him and his future wife. He then asked Mr. Baker to be pleased to accept the gift, which was accompanied by a neatly executed illuminated address in an Oxford frame, of which the following is a copy:

"Bedfordshire Association of Change-Ringers. To the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, rector of Milton Bryant, Beds: We the undersigned members of the above Association, beg your acceptance of the acccompanying gold bronze tiazza on the occasion of your marriage, as a token of our esteem and heartfelt thanks for the kind interest taken by you in the promotion and furtherance of scientific change-ringing. With sincere wishes for your future happiness and welfare. W. Allen, W. Biggs, T. Bull, J. Carwell-Cooke, H. Chapman, H. Checkley, W. Chibnall, C. W. Clarke, S. Cullip, T. G. E. Elger, J. N. Frossel, W. Hall, C. Herbert, I. Hills, C. R. Howard, E. Keech, F. Keech, M. Lane, E. Lewin, J. C. Maltby, F. Mayes, A. Morrison, W. Mynard, E. Norman, C. Pass, E. Ransom, W. Starr, W. Smith, J. Spencer, F. T. Tanqueray, W. E. Turney, G. Usher, M. Warwick, R. Wells. Bedfordshire, January 1888."

The Rev. Mr. Baker, in accepting the present, expressed himself extremely gratified at the kindness shewn to him by the members of the Association, of which body he had been a member since its formation in 1882, stating also that it would always remind him of many happy hours spent in the exercise of change-ringing in the county.

The tiazza, which was supplied by Messrs. Bull and Co., of Bedford, also members, bore the following inscription, neatly engraved in old English characters:—

"Presented to the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, on his marriage, from the Beds. Association of change-ringers, 1888."

The bells of St. Paul's church, Bedford, were rung on the day of the marriage, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples being struck by the following members of the Association: J. Spooner, 1; W. Hall, 2; C. Pass, 3; S. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; H. Toll, 8. St. Mary's bells, Bedford, also gave forth many 720s of Minor on the auspicious occasion.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.—RINGERS' SUPPER.

On Tuesday, January 17th, the Dunster Guild of Change-ringers held their annual supper at Mr. C. Oxenbury's, which was well served. The Rev. E. P. Hebblethwaite took the chair, the vice-chair being taken by Mr. C. B. Craze. After the loyal toasts had been honoured.

Mr. R. HOLE proposed the health of the President, the Rev. G. B. Simeon, and said they would like to see him a little more amomgst them, but as they saw so little of him they considered that he was very well satisfied with the way in which they performed their duties.

Mr. C. B. CRAZE next proposed the health of the life members, the Rev. H. A. Cockey and the Rev. I. U. Todd. He said he knew it would be drank with all acclamation, and though they were not present they were with them in heart, and he knew what was running in each members thoughts, and that was they wished they had their presence there that night.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN next proposed "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,'" and said thanks were due to the Editor for publishing their doings, which showed that change-ringing was practised in the West as well as in the Northern and Midland Counties. Several songs were sung, and some touches of Minor and Triples were rung throughout the evening.

Mr. R. HOLE proposed the health and a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was heartily responded to by all present, who said it gave him great pleasure to be with them that evening.

The CHAIRMAN, before leaving, proposed "Success to change-ringing," and coupled the name of Mr. C. B. Craze with the toast, who was an enthusiast in the art.

Mr. CRAZE, responding, said it gave him very great pleasure to reply to that toast, as he had change-ringing at heart, and hoped to be a change-ringer as long as he lived. Although they had not reached that state of efficiency that he wished in the different methods, it was not for want of ability, but practice. He read the report of their doings for the year. They had rung for pleasure and practice over 42,000 changes, consisting of one peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, two half peals, one date touch, 1887 changes, one touch 1834, two 1722 each, one 1344, two quarter-peals, three touches of 1008, five 840s, several 714s, 630s and 500s. The rest is made up of Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. And for Sunday service over 25,000 changes had been rung. A few more songs ended a most enjoyable evening.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Friday, January 20th, at 7 p.m., by the kind invitation of the churchwardens (Messrs. J. Jacques and B. B. Hawkeswood) the ringers of the parish church met at the National School, and sat down to a bountiful spread of roast beef and mutton and plum pudding, in recognition of their services for the past year. After the removal of the cloth, in the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Thompson, M.A., who was unable to attend, the Rev. —. Crabbe presided, and the ringers enjoyed themselves by rendering selections on the handbells, glees, songs, etc. At the close of the proceedings a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the churchwardens and their ladies for their munificence. During the year the members have made a fair start to learn the art of change ringing, and any stranger who is a change-ringer would be most heartily welcomed on any Tuesday evening at 7.30 p.m.

SOUTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.

Whilst the local company were practising an accident occured to the tenor bell, which might have been accompanied with fatal results to some of the ringers. The tenor weighs about 19 cwt., and while all the bells were in full swing one of the gudgeons of the tenor broke off short, and left the bell free to disport itself among the framework up aloft. Luckily the bell became wedged, and only just did not find a passage through the hole through which the bells had been raised from below. In this case all will be well that ends well; and if this mishap results in these beautiful bells being rehung by some good firm, the young band of enthusiastic ringers lately formed in the parish, will be content to forego for a while their weekly meetings in the tower, and try, as they are at present doing, to improve themselves by regular handbell practice in the schoolroom.

ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

ON Thursday, January 19th, the annual supper of the above Society took place, when the whole of the company (sixteen in number) and a few friends sat down to a substantial repast, kindly provided by the vicar (Rev. Prebendary Wilson), who was unfortunately unable to be present. The chair, however, was ably filled by the Rev. W. H. Arundel, who was supported by the Rev. W. Starey.

After the good things were disposed of and the cloth removed, a most enjoyable evening was spent. Amongst the various toasts were those of "The Queen," "The Vicar," and "THE BELL NEWS," which were heartily received and duly honored.

The SECRETARY (Mr. W. Pye-English), in the course of a short speech, remarked that the company was in a very good position in the ringing science, they could ring seven different methods and during the past year had rung five peals. viz.: the famous peal of Bob Triples on seven bells, Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, two peals of Bob Major, one to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday and one on Jubilee day, and a peal of Union Triples. He thought this a very creditable record for a local society, and hoped they would do better still this year.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Sec. was passed for the able manner in which he has fulfilled his duties, and the splendid style in which he has entered the peals in the company's peal book, which was presented to the Society by Mr. Hubbard.

During the evening songs were rendered in good style by Rev. W. Starey, and Messrs. Barnett, Barrs, English, Grove and Randall. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought the proceedings to a close, and the company separated, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

It may be remarked that a tablet of a substantial character has been erected in the belfry to record the well known seven-bell peal (which the St. James's Society did not recognise). This tablet (which is also the gift of Mr. A. Hubbard) consists of a scroll of sheet lead, mounted on an Oxford frame; it is well written and has a very unique appearance.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, January 21st, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held in Beauty Bank Schoolroom, Stourbridge. In the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. C. W. Tibbetts (Coseley) presided. The meeting was well attended, with members from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Coseley, Chaddesley Corbett, Cradley, Dudley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Tipton, etc. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and eighteen new members were admitted. Instructors were appointed to the Chaddesley Corbett and Stoke Prior companies. In the course of the miscellaneous business remarks were made by several members in reference to the St. Thomas' Society, Stourbridge. The present band, which is only a young one, are desirous of becoming good change-ringers, but sorry to say, the bells are in such a dilapidated condition that nothing can be achieved without a great deal of hard laborious work; and as some extensive alterations are going to be made to the church, it was resolved to ask those in authority to take into consideration the bad state of the bells, and to put them in good ringing condition. Votes of thanks having been passed to the rev. Chairman for presiding, and to the Rev. H. Sherrard for the use of the Schoolroom, tower, and bells, the meeting terminated.

Some of the members afterwards went to St. James's, Wollaston, were there is a nice ring of six, and others to St. Thomas', Stourbridge. Whilst ringing here the wheel of the seventh bell collapsed. Afterwards three courses of Treble Bob Triples were rang. G. Pagett, 1; E. Crump (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; G. Hayward, 4; R. E. Grove, 5; W. Rea, 6; S. Spittle, 8. An adjournment was afterwards made to the meeting house of the ringers—W. Baker's—were several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung, and several tunes played by the Stourbridge and Bromsgrove companies respectively. Several songs and recitations were rendered during the evening.

ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

In another column will be found the first peal of Major by the above society, making the second peal on the bells of the parish church, Melbourne, since their augmentation to eight from a peal of six in June last. It was intended to ring this peal in December in honour of the 84th birthday of the vicar (the Rev. Jos. Deans), but on account of illness near the church, the peal had to be postponed till Saturday last. For some years after the old six were put in the tower (April 1882), no regular society of ringers was formed in Melbourne, but a band was got together, who managed after a lengthy period to master the intricacies of Grandsire Doubles, their ambition seeming not to lead them above this stage. Owing however to some little dispute, or from a want of proper organisation so indispensable to progress in the art of change-ringing, this band broke up in 1884, and the clergy and churchwardens immediately set about forming a society on a sound basis which was accomplished. Some five young men were persuaded to join and this together with two of the old ones, drilled the young ones into the rudiments of the art. Under the able instruction of Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby, who has always been untiring in his efforts towards the advancement of the Melbourne men, the society soon rang several 720s of Bob and Grandsire Minor, and intended to learn Treble Bob Minor, but the proposal for augmenting the peal to eight for the Jubilee, soon put a stop to practice altogether, the ringers entering heartily into the object, and devoting what spare time they had towards the attainment of it till the peal was completed, when seven and eight bell ringing had to be practised, which has resulted in the two peals already reported. It is hoped ere long to score peals of Grandsire, Oxford Bob, and Treble Bob, which are now being practised, the only drawback being in having so few ringing members, only a bare eight being able to go into change-ringing, but others it is hoped will shortly take it up, and so make a proficient band.

GRIMSBY, YORKSHIRE.

The Annual Dinner of the local company was held at the "White Hart" Hotel, on Wednesday evening, January 18th, at 7 p.m., when Host Heyhoe put on his usual good spread, to which ample justice was done. After the cloth was removed the leader of the company (D. Seamer) was voted to the chair, when the health of the Queen and other toasts usual on such occasions were drunk, followed by handbell ringing, songs, recitations, and duets by the brothers Bates, Heyhoe, Coe, Jenkinson, Fuller, and Wilcox. At intervals, through the kindness of Messrs. Atkins and Wilcox bringing up their air spring gun and galvanic battery, a great deal of amusement was caused, as several of the company were more used to handling the ropes than the gun. so that instead of dodging in the middle they shot very wide of the mark. Mr. Redman officiated at the piano in his usual good style, and comic songs, several 120s of Grandsire Doubles, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells by members of the company. Great disappointment was felt at the absence of the Hull ringers, but owing to unforseen circumstances they were unable to be present. Time flying swiftly eleven o'clock was announced, and the company parted, having spent a most happy and social evening.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 4th, at the parish church. The bells will be open for ringing at 3 o'clock; meeting at 5 in the old schoolroom, Church Lane. Teas can be had close by.

J. Hoggard, *Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Radcliffe, on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting in the school at 6 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited.

Joel Redford, A. E. Wreaks, } *Hon. Sec.*

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

On Thursday, September 22nd, 1887, the occasion of Mr. George Rhodes' wedding, a round peal of bells was rung immediately after the service. This was the first wedding celebrated in the Cathedral, and consequently the first wedding peal rung on the bells. In the evening a half-peal of Grandsire Minor (360), was got through very creditably. The ringers were: —. Smart, treble; J. Beechey, 2; F. Parker, 3; J. Andrews, 4; T. B. Hall, 5; J. Marriott, 6; J. Heasman, 7; S. White, 8. The last two were covering bells. The tenor bell weighs 32 cwt., and consequently is rather tirng to ring in a peal of any length. What we lack so much out here in N.Z., is competition. We have the ringing too much all to ourselves. If there were three or four more peals of bells, you would probably hear of our performances much oftener than you have done heretofore.

Christchurch, New Zealand, November 16th, 1887.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

The Second Meeting of the above branch was held in St. Michael's vestry, on Saturday, January 14th. There were present the Rev. Canon Turner (St. Michael's, Macclesfield), in the chair, the Rev. J. T. Penrose, Gawsworth; and 24 ringing members from the following belfries: St. Michael's, Macclesfield, Bollington, Prestbury, Gawsworth, Alderly, Poynton, and Chelford. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and letters of apology were read from the vicars of Poynton and Chelford, and the Rural Dean of Alderly. The Rev. Canon Turner was then elected chairman of the branch, and William Walmsley instructor. A committee was formed being one from each belfry, and an election of members took place. It was agreed that the meetings be held quarterly, and the next meeting be held at Bollington, on April 14th. This branch has now forty members, including four honorary members. At the end of the meeting, which lasted nearly two hours, a vote of thanks was accorded to Canon Turner for occupying the chair. After the meeting the members sat down to a knife and fork tea at the "Black Horse" inn, which was enjoyed by all. After the tea was over, the *jugs* of the St. Michael's society were examined, and spoken very highly of.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Selly Oak, on Saturday, January 21st, when the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. During the afternoon several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of St. Mary's, which previous to June last only boasted of a ring of six, the augmentation being a jubilee gift of the parishioners. In the evening the business portion of the proceedings was conducted under the presidency of Mr. C. Carmell, Vice President of the Association. The Rev. Canon Bowlby, Rector of St. Phillip's, Birmingham, was elected for the third time President, Mr. J Wright, Hon. Sec., and Mr. J. Carter, Hon. Treasurer, being elected for the sixth year in succession. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Harborne, Staffordshire. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. C. Price for the use of the bells, which well merit the encomiums passed on them by all assembled.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.

On Friday, January 6th, the ringers of the parish church, Folkestone, held their annual dinner. Major Penfold was the founder of the feast about five years ago, and most kindly gives a leg of mutton each year towards the dinner, and several ladies and gentlemen have liberally subscribed to the fund, and the mutton has been accompanied by roast beef, etc. Host Fisher, of the "Macanie Arms," catered, and every one present enjoyed the good things provided. After dinner the evening was spent with tunes and touches of Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Bob Major on the handbells.

Mr. Samuel Barker, captain of the band, proposed the health of Major Penfold, and all supporters of change-ringing.

The vacant chair of Mr. J. Harrison was noticed, and the snuff box which he had carried so many years, was passed round. The evening terminated with "Auld Lang Syne," and everyone had spent a most enjoyable evening.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1887, AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER.

		Jan. to Nov.	Dec.	Total.	Treble Bob methods.	Grandsire.	On six bells.	Plain methods.	Double methods.	Surprise methods.	Stedman.	Total.	Position in 1886
1st.	Sussex County Association	41	29	70	6	30	29	4	—	—	1	70	9th.
2nd.	Ancient Society of College Youths	55	12	67	7	31	—	3	5	3	18	67	3rd.
3rd.	Yorkshire Association	59	4	63	32	12	7	7	—	—	5	63	5th.
4th.	Oxford Diocesan Guild	46	5	51	—	16	3	—	5	4	23	51	2nd.
5th.	Midland Counties' Association	39	5	44	5	9	—	6	6	8	10	44	1st.
6th.	Lancashire Association	29	5	34	14	13	—	6	—	—	1	34	4th.
7th.	St. James Society, London	27	3	30	—	25	—	4	—	—	1	30	7th.
8th.	Norwich Diocesan Association	21	7	28	13	7	1	6	1	—	—	28	6th.
9th.	Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	25	2	27	6	19	—	—	1	—	1	27	11th.
10th.	Essex Association	18	6	24	4	16	—	3	—	—	1	24	19th.
11th.	Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	16	6	22	—	17	1	3	—	—	1	22	21st.
12th.	United Counties Association	19	1	20	18	—	1	1	—	—	—	20	8th.
13th.	Kent County Assoctation	18	2	20	—	15	—	5	—	—	—	20	10th.
14th.	Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	12	3	15	—	13	—	—	—	—	2	15	18th.
15th.	Surrey Association	13	1	14	1	8	—	4	—	—	1	14	15th.
16th.	Winchester Diocesan Guild	11	0	11	—	5	4	1	—	—	1	11	14th.
17th.	Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association	8	2	10	—	9	—	1	—	—	—	10	28th.
18th.	St. Martin's Society, Birmingham	7	2	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	7	9	....
19th.	Bedfordshire Association	6	3	9	1	2	5	1	—	—	—	9	27th.
20th.	Salisbury Diocesan Guild	4	3	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	22nd.
21st.	Hertford Association	7	0	7	—	5	—	—	1	—	1	7	13th.
22nd.	The Holt Society	5	0	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	5	16th.
23rd.	Waterloo Society, London	5	0	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	....
24th.	Devonshire Guild	3	1	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	24th.
25th.	Durham and Newcastle Association	2	1	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	25th.
26th.	Liverpool Youths' Society	2	0	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	17th.
27th.	Birmingham Amalgamated Society	1	0	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	12th.
28th.	Eastern' Counties Guild	1	0	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	29th.
29th.	North Lincolnshire Association	1	0	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	....
30th.	West Riding of Yorkshire Association	1	0	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	....
31st.	Salop Association	1	0	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	....
	Independent Societies	83	13	96	19	49	6	19	—	1	2	96	
		586	116	702	128	327	59	74	19	20	75	702	
	Less peals entered under two Associations	45	11	56	15	29	2	—	3	3	4	56	
	Totals	541	105	646	113	298	57	74	16	13	75	646	

The above peals were rung in the following methods:—Albion Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 5; Cambridge Surprise Major, 7; London Surprise Major, 1; Double Oxford Bob Major, 5; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 11; Stedman Cinques, 5; Stedman Caters, 16; Stedman Triples, 50; Treble Bob Maximus, 2; Treble Bob Royal, 15; Treble Bob Major, 96; Grandsire Cinques, 4; Grandsire Caters, 32; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 257; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 4; Bob Royal, 2; Bob Major, 45; Bob Triples, 12; Violet Treble Bob Major, 1; Duffield Major, 1: Rose of England Major, 1; Cumberland Exercise Major, 1; Union Triples, 7; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; in 21 Minor Methods upon six bells, 1; in fourteen ditto, 1; in seven ditto, 55; in two ditto, 1; in one ditto, 2; in 21 Methods on five bells, 1; in sixteen ditto, 1; total 646. Greatest number of changes in one peal, 10,176. Number of peals containing 10,000 changes or upwards, 2; over 6000 changes, 9; under 6000, 635. Quickest 5000 on church bells, 2 hrs. and 29 mins., rung at Capel in Surrey.

The 257 peals of Grandsire Triples are made up as follows:—Holt's Original, 83; Holt's ten-part and its variations, 82; Holt's six-part, 15; Taylor's bob-and-single, 27; Hollis's five-part, 12; Davies's ten-part, 3; Davies's five-part, 7; Thompson's three-part, 4; Penning's one-part, 3; other peals, 21. The 50 peals of Stedman Triples:—Thurstans', 23; Brooks', 22; other peals, 5. The 113 Treble Bob peals:—In the Kent Variation, 104; In the Oxford, 8; and Violet Treble Bob, 1.

The time occupied in ringing the 646 peals was 2086 hours, or 87 days and nights, the average for each peal being 3 hrs. 13½ mins.

Conductors of Four Peals and Upwards.

J. W. Washbrook, 46; C. Tyler, 16; C. Jackson, 14; H. Chandler, A. P. Heywood, and G. Newson, 13; F. G. Newman, 12; S. Reeves, 11; Rev. F. E. Robinson and G. Smart, 10; J. Pettit and A. E. Wreaks, 9; R. French, 8; G. F. Attree, H. Bastable, C. Mee, C. Sillitoe, J. W. Taylor, jun., C. F. Winny, and W. Wakley, 7; G. Hayward, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, C. W. Clarke, J. Griffin, T. Hart, J. M. Hayes, J. Motts, A. E. Nunn, W. Sevier, S. Wood, and J. S. Wilde, 5; S. Brooker, T. Blackbourn, A. B. Carpenter, C. H. Hattersley, J. H. Hardcastle, D. Jordan, W. T. Pates, J. Searle, J. Sholicar, F. Shepherd, E. Streeter, H. J. Tucker, H. Weston, M. A. Wood, W. Weatherstone, G. Williams, and L. Willshire, 4. In addition to these there were twenty-three who conducted three peals; forty who conducted two peals; and 227 who conducted one peal. Three peals were non-conducted; one conducted by eight conductors; and three were published without conductor's names; making a total of 275 persons who acted as conductors during the year.

Peals on Church bells, 630; on handbells, 24. They were rung as follows:—

January, 50.	March, 65.	May, 57.	July, 14.	September, 41.	November, 67.
February, 76.	April, 62.	June, 38.	August 20.	October, 52.	December, 104.

The following table shows the continued increase in peals rung annually since the publication of "The Bell News":—

1881, from January to December, 156.		1885, from January to December, 500.	
1882, " " " "	244.	1886, " " " "	556.
1883, " " " "	330.	1887, " " " "	646.
1884, " " " "	419.		

George F. Attree, *Brighton.*

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that a District Meeting of this Association will be held at Buxted, on Saturday, February 4th. A special service with address by the Rev. J. P. Gell, will be held at Buxted church at 1 o'clock. Cold collation at 2 o'clock, to be followed by a business meeting. The tower of Buxted church will be open for ringing throughout the day, and bands will visit Waldron and Uckfield (eight bells), and Maresfield (six bells) during the afternoon.

Geo. F. Attree, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTICE.

Several members (from Battersea), of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths intend spending a social afternoon and evening, at host Hopkins', "The Crooked Billet," Walthamstow (one mile from Hoe Street-station), on Saturday, February 11th. Dinner will be served at 6 o'clock (2/6 per head) and I shall be pleased to receive the names of any brother-strings and friends, who would like to join the gathering not later than the 6th of February.

Henry S. Thomas,
71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey.

A PEAL OF BURTON SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

13,216.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

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4 3 2 6 5	–	–	–
2 4 3 6 5			–
5 3 4 6 2	–		–
4 5 3 6 2			–
3 6 4 5 2		–	–
4 3 6 5 2			–

The nine courses "lined off" twice repeated completes the peal.

This is the greatest number of changes yet produced in this method with the tenors together.

A 720 OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MINOR.

By W. J. PIPER, *Widford.*

2 3 4 5 6	
4 2 6 3 5	
5 6 4 2 3	–
3 4 5 6 2	–
2 5 3 4 6	–
3 2 6 5 4	
6 3 4 2 5	
5 4 6 3 2	–
2 6 5 4 3	–
3 5 2 6 4	–
4 2 3 5 6	–

Twice repeated.

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN CATERS.

1888.

By J. H. BARRETT, *London.*

1 2 3 4 5 6		
*6 1 2 3 5 4		
6 1 4 2 5 3		16
6 1 3 4 5 2		16
3 1 6 4 5 2	5	s
3 1 2 6 5 4		16
2 1 3 4 5 6	5	16
2 1 6 3 5 4		16
2 1 4 6 5 3		16
4 1 2 3 5 6	5	16
4 1 6 2 5 3		16
4 1 3 6 5 2		16
3 1 4 6 5 2	5	s
3 1 2 4 5 6		16
2 1 3 6 5 4	5	16
2 1 4 3 5 6		16
2 1 4 3 5 6	1	
2 3 1 4 5 6	1	15

Start with quick six, *Produced by bobs at 1, 7, 17, 18, 20, 21, 27.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston,*

10,320.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		1	2
4 6 5 3 2	1		2
6 4 2 3 5	2		2

Four times repeated.

This peal contains two leads more than the longest length rung, viz.: Mr. Estcourt's one-part peal, rung at Painswick in 1833.

6000.

– 2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2
2 4 3 6 5	1		2
5 2 6 4 3	2	1	2
5 6 4 2 3		1	2
2 5 6 3 4	2	2	2
5 4 6 3 2	1		2
2 5 3 4 6	2	1	2
– – 2 3 4 5 6		1	2

In the Tittums.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5120.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		1	2
5 6 3 4 2	1	1	2
3 2 4 6 5	1	1	2
5 3 6 2 4	2	1	2
5 4 3 2 6	2		1

Repeated.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich,*

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 2 5 3 4	2		1	2
6 5 3 2 4	1	–		2
2 4 5 3 6	2	–		2
2 5 3 4 6	1	–	2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	2	2

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 6 3 5 4	2		1
2 3 5 6 4		1	2
2 5 6 3 4		1	2
3 6 5 2 4		2	2
6 3 4 2 5	2		2
2 4 3 6 5		2	2
2 3 6 4 5		1	2
5 2 4 3 6	2	1	2
5 4 3 2 6		1	2
2 3 4 5 6		2	2

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5152.

By W. T. PATES, *Cheltenham,*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	6
5 4 3 2 6	–		–
4 3 5 2 6			–
3 5 4 2 6			–
2 4 5 3 6	–		–
4 5 2 3 6			–
5 2 4 3 6			–
3 2 6 5 4	–	–	–
2 6 3 5 4			–
5 3 6 2 4	–		–
3 6 5 2 4			–
6 5 3 2 4			–
2 3 5 6 4	–		–
3 2 4 6 5		–	–
2 4 3 6 5			–
6 3 4 2 5	–		–
3 4 6 2 5			–
4 6 3 2 5			–
2 3 6 4 5	–		–
3 2 5 4 6		–	–
3 5 2 4 6			s
5 2 3 4 6			–
4 3 2 5 6	–		–
3 2 4 5 6			–

Repeated.

Mr. W. T. Pates writes as follows: "I am sorry to say that the 5152 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in last week's "BELL NEWS" is false.

MONK ON RINGING.

Remaining numbers of this work can now be had on application to the Publisher,

E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

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,,	6 ,, ...	3*s.* 3*d.*
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All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under* 5000 *changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "*THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1888.

THE analysis of performances for the year just gone, by Mr. ATTREE, which will be found on another page, will certainly prove of interest to all the readers of "THE BELL NEWS." The statistics which Mr. ATTREE puts together has, without doubt, taken some time and trouble to compile, but the results prove worthy of the self-appointed task. The publication of such information as this, in addition to its being popularly received, will lead to greater emulation being displayed among ringers, in order to get "placed" in a leading position upon this yearly statement. While, however, this ambition is commendable, it is to be hoped that greater care than ever will be taken in achieving results worthy of being recorded.

No one will question the assertion that reports of performances have found their way into our columns which never ought to have been there. Peals (or what are called peals) have been rung that would have been publicly condemned as false by many experts had they heard them. A peal is not to be regarded as true because if a change-course occurs between two bells the conductor is able to call a single instead of a bob when such bells happen to come "before." Nor can continuous bad striking throughout a peal do anything but militate against its claims to recognition. Under either of these circumstances the bells should be stopped, and endeavours to record an unworthy performance frustrated.

We take this opportunity of impressing upon our friends the utmost care in such an important matter as peal-ringing, because we hear now and then of performances which ought to be condemned instead of reported. There are now wakeful people about who are waiting their opportunity to expose these doubtful essays, therefore it will be as well to give no occasion for them to exhibit their talents in this direction. Else next year we shall find in Mr. ATTREE's list a subjoined schedule indicating which of the performances of the year are to be considered as honest and true, and which may be regarded as false and delusive.

The Metropolis.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

T. W. COMLEY*	*Treble.*	C. E. MALIM	5.
SANTLEY BAKER†	2.	H. A. HOPKINS	6.
W. BARON	3.	C. W. LUDWIG	7.
A. G. THOMAS	4.	G. WILD	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. BARON.

*First peal. †First peal on a bob-bell.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E♭.

JAMES NICHOLLS*	*Treble.*	CHALLIS F. WINNY	6.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	2.	*JAMES W. DRIVER	7.
FREDERICK W. KELLY	3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE	8.
HENRY R. NEWTON	4.	JOHN M. HAYES	9.
JOHN W. KELLY	5.	SAMUEL HOW	*Tenor.*

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH, and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

*First peal on ten bells, All the above with the exception of Messrs. Newman, Newton and Hayes are of the Fulham Society.

The Provinces.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE HORSHAM AND WARNHAM BRANCHES).

On Saturday, January 7, 1881, *in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S 6-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WALTER CHARMAN	*Treble.*	JACOB BROWN	5.
WILLIAM SHORT	2.	FELIX KNIGHT	6.
THOMAS ANDREWS	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
GEORGE RAPLEY	4.	*ERNEST WALLER	*Tenor.*

(No conductor mentioned).

* First peal. The ringers of Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are members of the Warnham branch, the rest hail from Horsham.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1888, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16¾ cwt.

H. GODDARD	*Treble.*	T. WILLOUGHBY	5.
E. WILLOUGHBY	2.	J. POTTER	6.
C. HARFFEY	3.	T. HART	7.
L. HUGGETT	4.	J. LEWIS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by THOMAS HART.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 19, 1888, *in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

W. A. ARNOTT	*Treble.*	HARRY BURCH	5.
JOHN FOSDIKE	2.	ALFRED WARD	6.
WILLIAM WARD	3.	CHARLES WARD	7.
WILLIAM BURCH	4.	PETO MEADOWS	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN FOSDIKE, and Conducted by WILLIAM WARD.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, January 19, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN AUSTIN .. .. ..*Treble.*		EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 5.	
HENRY D. BETTERIDGE .. 2.		HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 6.	
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.		THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.	
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. .. 4.		WILLIAM WAKLEY .. ..*Tenor.*	

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which contains the 4th and 5th each eight times, and the 6th nine times in 6ths place, with no other bell there, is the first 5024 ever rung in the method. Henry D. Betteridge, Esq. hails from Drayton, Oxfordshire, and this is his first peal in the method. Rung in the Burton variation.

HEYWOOD.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22¾ cwt. in Eb.

ALBERT E. WREAKS .. ..*Treble.*		JOHN MILLETT .. .. .. 5.	
WILLIAM R. BARRETT .. 2.		JOHN HARRISON.. .. .. 6.	
HENRY H. NUTTER .. .. 3.		FRANK BIRTWHISTLE .. 7.	
REV. CHARLES S. ROWLAND 4.		SAMUEL BRIERLEY .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

A. Wreaks hails from Manchester; H. Nutter hails from Ramsbottom; S. Brierley from Milnrow; F. Birtwistle from Rochdale; the Rev. C. S. Rowland is a new curate at the Rochdale parish church, and was elected a member in the belfry before starting for the peal, and is also a member of the Oxford University Society; the rest belong to Heywood.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BALCOMBE BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Two Hours and Thirty-seven & ½ Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 *of each of the following:—*

VIOLET TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, PLAIN BOB, AND OXFORD SINGLE BOB.

Tenor 11 cwt.

R. STREETER* .. .. ..*Treble.*		J. GASSON .. .. 4.	
A. STONER .. .. 2.		J. CHEESEMAN .. .. .. 5.	
E. STREETER .. .. .. 3.		H. MEADS .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by H. MEADS.

*First 5040. The above peal was rung to commemorate the conductor's 23rd birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

MELBOURNE, DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(DERBY BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16¼ cwt in F♯.

JOHN R. WOOD .. .. ..*Treble.*		JOSEPH WARREN .. .. 5.	
JOHN VICKERS .. .. .. 2.		GEO. CALOW TUNNICLIFF 6.	
FREDK. WM. COOK .. .. 3.		GEO. ALBERT FISH .. .. 7.	
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH .. 4.		HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD *Tenor.*	

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by H. C. WOODWARD.

The above peal is the first peal of Major by all except the conductor, also the first peal of Major on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt in honour of the birthday of Thos. Hollingworth, a member of the above society, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

RICHARD S. MANN .. ..*Treble.*		GEORGE FISHER .. .. 5.	
JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. .. 2.		WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. 6.	
WILLIAM JAMES.. .. .. 3.		*HENRY COLEY .. .. .. 7.	
WILLIAM BOOTH.. .. .. 4.		THOMAS HAMMOND .. ..*Tenor.*	

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First in the method on the bells. This is Thomas Hammond's 50th peal, made up as follows: Grandsire Cinques, 1; Caters. 10; Major, 1; Triples, 14. Plain Bob Major, 1; Triples, 1. Treble Bob Royal, 3; Caters, 1; Major, 10. Stedman Caters, 3; Triples, 5. Conducted in all, 14.

The figures of this peal appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," January 7th, 1888. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for granting permission to ring, and also to Mr. Roberts for having everything in readiness for them.

LEISTON.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt.

T. STAULKEY .. .. ..*Treble.*		W. BUTTON.. .. .. .. 5.	
H. J. BUTTON .. .. .. 2.		A. LINCOLN.. .. .. .. 6.	
F. WILSON.. .. .. .. 3.		C. T. SHEARING.. .. .. 7.	
A. G. RODWELL .. .. .. 4.		R. W. STANNARD .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by C. T. SHEARING.

The above was rung as a farewell peal to C. T. Shearing. It was also a Bachelor peal, the average age of the company being 19 years.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Two Hours and fifty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S-TEN PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

SIDNEY LAWRENCE .. ..*Treble.*		HENRY D. ADAMS .. .. 5.	
ALFRED P. GODDARD.. .. 2.		THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 6.	
ARTHUR W. BARKUS.. .. 3.		WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.	
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.		WILLIAM TRYHORN .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

GLOUCESTER.—THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 24, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CRYPT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES FIVE-PART (No. 1). Tenor 14¾ cwt.

THOS. BELCHER .. .. ..*Treble.*		GARRY MILLS .. .. .. 5.	
SYDNEY E. ROMANS .. .. 2.		FRANCIS E. WARD, ESQ.. 6.	
HENRY MITCHELL .. .. 3.		WILLIAM T. PATES .. .. 7.	
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 4.		ALFRED A. WAITE .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, January 21, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

T. MILLER .. ..*Treble.*		T. RUSSAM.. .. .. .. 5.	
H. BASTABLE .. .. .. 2.		J. BUFFERY.. .. .. .. 6.	
T. REYNOLDS .. .. .. 3.		H. JOHNSON, JUN. .. .. 7.	
C. STANBRIDGE .. .. .. 4.		J. QUARTERMAN .. .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by H. BASTABLE.

The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their thanks to the Cathedral authorities for the use of the bells, and to the courteous tower-keeper, Mr. Saniger, for having the bells in such capital ringing order.

Date Touches.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday, January 19th, at St. Andrew's, Litchurch, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 20 mins. Charles Draper, 1; Thos. Alton, 2; John Thompson, 3; William B. Midgley, 4; Charles Hart, 5; Albert E. Thompson, 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; George Mottashaw, 8. Composed by Samuel Marsh, of West Bromwich, and conducted by Harry C. Woodward. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

SAXMUNDHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 21st, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 changes in the following methods: 720 Kent, 720 Oxford, and 360 Oxford Treble Bob, and 88 Plain Bob. W. Watling, 1; F. Watling, 2; W. Lambert, 3; R. Wells (conductor), 4; F. Cooper, 5; H. Cooper, 6.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 22nd, by the local company, at the parish church, a "Crown Bob" date touch, in 1 hr. 3 mins., comprised of the following methods: Burton New Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, Violet, New London, Duke of York, Royston Delight, City Delight, College Pleasure, London Scholars,' College Exercise, and Oxford Treble Bob. J. Scott, 1; Squire Mitchell, 2; W. Duffy, 3; W. Idle, 4; J. Blackburn, 5; G. H. Simon (composer and conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—*Tapping.*—On Thursday evening, January 19th, Mr. James Moulton, at his residence, 31 Duke Street, tapped at the first attempt, on his musical box of fairy bells, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins., witnessed by Messrs. A. Cross, W. Povey, and C. Price, of Eccleston, who took off the bob leads as they were struck. This touch is the composition of Mr. S. Marsh, of West Bromwich, the sixth being five course-ends at home. Afterwards at the request of Mr. Cross, he tapped a plain course of Stedman Cinques, also three bob leads of Treble Bob Maximus.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 23rd, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Potter, 1; F. Day, 2; W. Bumpstead, 3; R. E. Gibbs, 4; G. Bird, 5; G. Murton, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble (conductor), 8. This touch is a production of the late Mr. H. Hubbard.

LINCOLN.—On Saturday, January 21st, at the cathedral, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. *C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; C. Wells, 2; I. Tinker, 3; *J. Pollard, 4; *W. Southwick, 5; J. Vickers, 6; *C. Bennett, 7; F. Stewart, 8. The above touch contains the twenty-four 6-7's. *Hails from Hull; †hails from Gainsboro. The rest are local men.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Tuesday, January 24th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1888 changes of Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 10 mins. E. Hughes, 1; S. Simpkin, 2; G. Ashford, Esq., 3; W. H. Roberts, 4; G. H. Denman, 5; A. Lambert, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; W. Fox, 8; W. Lee, 9; W. S. Knibb, 10. This is the longest length on these bells for the last ten years.

POSLINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, January 19th, at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), in the following methods on five bells: twelve 6-scores of Grandsire, three 6-scores of Bob Doubles, and 88 of Bob Doubles, with extremes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 21st, the ringers of the Parish Church rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (consisting of 1888 changes) containing the Queen's, Tittums, Whittingtons, and the twenty-four 6-7's, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. The above was rung as a welcome at the Institution of the Rev. T. G. Swindell, the new vicar, by the Bishop of Lichfield. John Goodman, 1; D. Bruce, 2; W. Mills, 3; S. Bunn, 4; J. Goodman (Dudley), 5; R. Schofield, (conductor), 6; J. Devenport, 7; J. Flavell, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 20 cwt.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 21st, the following members of the Sudbury company rang for practice at St. Gregory's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (containing 1888 changes), in 1 hr. and 15 mins. F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Cross, 5; W. Griggs, 6; W. Howell, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. The above was composed by Charles Price, of Eccleston. Tenor 16 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; *W. Hammond, 2; S. Hammond, 3; F. L. Bumpstead 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. *First 720 in the method.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 18th, Mr. J. Carter's (corrected) date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains, 2; R. Wood, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. Harvey, 5; W. J. Piper, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7: A. Bonnington, 8.

ROMFORD.—*Chiming.*—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor (silent), in 26 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

THE ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

On Sunday, January 15th, at the parish church, 266 Grandsire Triples. J. Nunn, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; W. Goodchild (Ware), 3; T. C. Grove, 4; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 5; G. B. Lucas, 6; Wm. Pye-English, 7; G. Miles (Ware), 8. This was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Brandon, a ringer of Ware. And for service in the evening, 360 Plain Bob Major. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; W. Goodchild, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; J. Waghorn, jun., 6; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8. On Tuesday, January 17th, for practice, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; H. Reeves, 3; H. Nunn, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8. On Sunday, January 22nd, 336 Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; W. Pye-English, 5; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 6; J. Waghorn, 7; G. Richards, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DOVER (Kent).—On Saturday, January 21st, at St. James' church, three 720s of Bob Minor (called differently), in 1 hr. 30 mins. H. Cheeseman, 1; J. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; E. Potter, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the longest touch ever rung on the bells. E. Potter belongs to Dover; the rest hail from Lyminge.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Chantler, 1; W. Tuffey, 2; A. Ring, 3; A. Cornford, 4; A. Osborne, 5; J. Tullett (conductor), 6. A. Cornford hails from Swanscombe; A. Ring from Frinsbury.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Broom, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; F. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, January 17th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas church, 2520 Court Bob Triples. R. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; G. Ladd, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; G. Skeef, 7; J. Brown, 8. This was an attempt for a peal, but on account of a change-course had to be called round half-way.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, January 5th, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, a 720 Bob Minor with (8 Bobs 6 Singles). W. Mayes (Cardington), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; H. Toll, 6. First 720 in the method, inside six. Also on Wednesday, January 18th, in honour of the Rev. W. W. C. Baker's marriage, he being a performing member of this Association. A 720 Bob Minor (18 Bobs 2 Singles). H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. Also on Sunday, January 22nd, at St. Paul's Church, for eveninghservice, a 320 Bob Major. H. Toll, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, January 17th, at St. Paul's Belfry, on handbells retained in hand, a 336 Grandsire. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1-2; W. Hall, 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Longest length in the method, double-handed by all. Also on Wednesday, January 18th, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 49 mins. J. Spencer, 1; W. Hall, 2; C. Pass, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; H. Toll, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham, and has the twelve 4-6s, twelve 6-7s, Queens, Whittingtons. Also 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. Toll, 1; W. Hall 2; C. Pass, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; Rev. Basil R. Airey (St. John's, Torquay), 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, December 4th, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor and 120 of Stedman Doubles. And

for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Also on Sunday, December 18th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, and 120 of Stedman Doubles. Also on Christmas Day, at 6.15., a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, and 120 of Grandsire Doubles, for morning service, at 11.0 a.m., 60 of College Single, and 60 of Oxford Bob Minor. And on Sunday, January 1st, 1888, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. Also on Tuesday evening, January 3rd, for practice, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. Also on Sunday, January 8th, for morning service a 720 of College Single. Also on Tuesday evening, January 10th, for practice, a 240 of Double Court, and 360 of Double Oxford. Also on Sunday, January 15th, for morning service, a 720 of College Single. Also on Tuesday evening, January 17th, for practice, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor and a 720 of Double Oxford. Also on Sunday, January 22nd, for evening service, a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. After service a 720 of Double Court. The following ringers took part in the above: Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, G. Essex, E. Pottinger, J. Hands H. Smith, E. Menday, H. Simmonds, F. Simmonds, C. Parfitt. Conducted by Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, and H. Simmonds. Tenor 17 cwt.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, January 14th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; C. Page, 3; A. Bunce, 4; F. Money, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday, January 15th, for Divine Service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Gregory, 1; O. Gregory 2; F. May, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; G. Money, 6. And on Saturday, January 21st, for practice, 360 of Grandsire Minor. C. Page, 1; A. Gregory, 2; F. Money, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday morning, January 22nd, for Divine Service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory 1; A. Bunce, 2; F. Money, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 22nd, at St. Sidwell's church, for morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Mundy (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Also for Divine service, in the evening, 1386 of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Mundy (conductor), 4; E. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. This is W. Mundy's longest touch as conductor.

ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, January 23rd, for practice at St. Stephen's church, the above Society with Messrs. J. Hinton and Taylor, rang 209 Grandsire Triples. W. Young, 1; *S. Phillips, 2; E. Duckham, 3; C. Trevett, 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; F. Ellis, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Taylor, 8. Also 720 Grandsire Minor on the front six, in 27 mins. J. Hinton, 1; S. Phillips, 2; F. Ellis, 3; C. Trevett, '4; W. Emery, 5; E. Duckham (conductor), 6. And some plain courses and short touches of Plain Bob Minor. S. Phillips, 1; F. Ellis, 2; E. Duckham, 3; W. Emery, 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. * Longest touch with a bob bell. J. Taylor hails from Radcliffe, near Manchester, and S. Phillips from Foy, Herefordshire.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 22nd, for morning service, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. B. Starky, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; A. Hills, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. R. Small, 6. And for evening service, 1722 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 2 mins. H. Mills, 1; A. Hill, 2; J. Hall, 3; W. R. Small, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; S. Jesson (conductor), 6; G. Hughes, 7; B. Starky, 8. And after evening service, 938 of Grandsire Triples, in 33 mins. H. Mills, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; J. Hall, 3; W. R. Small, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson (conductor), 6; G. Hughes, 7; B. Starkey, 8. J. Hall hails from West Bromwich.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, January 14th, at the parish, church, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith jun., 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also 324 Bob Minor. J. Hinchley, 1; R. Hutton (conduetor), 6; the others standing as before. On Sunday, January 15th, for Divine Service. 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnet, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. On Wednesday, January 18th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. G. Smith, jun., 1; R. Hutton, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, January 7th, for practice, in the reading room, a 6-score of Bob Doubles, A. Howell, 1; E. B. Howell, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6. Also a plain course of Grandsire Triples. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; R. Dunkley, 5-6; W. Richards, 7-8. Also a 6-score of Bob Doubles, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Cade 1; G. Martin, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6.

CLAPTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, at St. Matthew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. G. J. Smith, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; F. Rumens, 3; T. Page, 4; G. Page, 5; W. B. Manning (conductor), 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; W. A. Masters, 8.

CAUSTON (Notts).—On Tuesday, January 24th, at the church of St. Agnes, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Gladden, 1; Rev. T. H. Marsh, 2; *C. Neat, 3; J. Timbers, 4; Rev. H. E. Bulwer (conductor), 5; R. Page, 6. *First 720 on the ropes.

DARLINGTON.—On Monday evening, January 22nd, at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 Bob Minor. *W. Allen, 1; J. R. Whitfield, 2; *W. Stairmand, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. Stephens, 5; G. Overton (conductor), 6. *First 720.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—Recently, for practice and Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 College Single and 720 Plain Bob. B. Brown, 1; T. Hillman, 2; J. Sackville (conductor), 3; J. Hillman, 4; E. Bourne, 5; T. Vaughan, 6. And another 720 College Single. T. Vaughan, 3; W. Jones (conductor), 6.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, January 22nd, for Divine Service, 444 Bob Minor. H. Berthon, 1; F. Wilson, 2; A. Rodwell, 3; R. W. Stannard (conductor), 4; G. J. Morling, 5; A. Lincoln, 6. And in the evening 720 Bob Minor (six bobs and thirty singles), in 26 mins. H. Berthon, 1; F. Wilson, 2; R. W. Stannard (conductor), 3; J. Berthon, 4; G. J. Morling, 5; A. Lincoln, 6. Tenor 20½ cwt.

MAISEMORE (Gloucestershire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, January 22nd, at the house of Mr. J. Clark, three 6-scores Stedman Doubles, each called differently. B. Etheridge (conductor), 1-2; W. Brunsdon, 3-4; J. Clark, 5-6.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, January 16th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. Hampton, 1; B. Townsend, 2; T. Hibbert, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12¼ cwt. T. Hibbert hails from Reading.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 15th, at the parish church, 616 Bob Triples in 23 mins. H. Cartwright, 1; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 2; R. Bird, 3; J. Palmer, 4; H. Mason, 5; C. Beasley (Cradley), 6; W. Green, 7; W. Bird, 8. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 26 mins. H. Cartwright, 1; *J. Palmer, 2; H. Mason, 3; *R. Bird, 4; A. E. Parsons, 5; *W. Bird (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Wednesday, January 18th, 503 Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. W. Bird, 1; W. Foxall, 2; J. Palmer, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; A. E. Parsons, 5; R. Bird, 6; W. Green (conductor), 7; H. Bennett (Rowley). 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. Also on Sunday, January 22nd, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Palmer, 1; W. Foxall, 2; W. Green, 3; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 4; H. Mason, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. E. Parsons, 7; A. H. Bassano, Esq., (conductor), 8.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 15th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, at St. Mary's church, 720 Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. The above was to have been rung before service, but owing to one of the local men not turning up it had to be postponed till after service, till the arrival of Mr. H. Smith, of Lavenham.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire.—On Monday evening, January 23rd, the Painswick society rang the following touches, assisted by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who is leaving Gloucestershire to his new sphere of labour at Ringmer in Sussex, the Painswick company, wishing him all success in his labour and ringing there. A 518 of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Rylands, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wages, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Also a 1008 in the same method. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; D. Marment, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8.

RAWMARSH (Yorkshire),—On Sunday, January 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by H. J. Tucker, in 45 mins. Thomas Whitworth (conductor), 1; S. Whitworth, 2; V. Hawkins, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; J. Ensor, 5; J. Farmery, 6; R. Whitworth, 7; J. Schofield, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Thomas Oxley, a Rotherham ringer.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, January 16th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 360 Yorkshire Court (nine bobs). J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; W. Hall, 4; E. Chapman, 5; H. Chapman

(conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; H. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on Thursday, January 19th, at the house of Mr. E. Chapman, 360 Yorkshire Court, and 360 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Bailey, 1; H. Chapman, 2; A. Martin, 3; E. Chapman, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5-6. And on Monday, January 23rd, 720 London Single, and 720 College Single. F. Clayton, 1; G. Burton, 2; E. Chapman, 3; A. Martin, 4; H. Chapman, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6.

SALISBURY (Wilts),—On Tuesday, January 17th, at St. Thomas' church, 1064 Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. On Sunday, January 22nd, for morning service, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Wise (first touch), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; T. Blackbourn, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

STROUD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, at the parish church, five members of the Painswick society, assisted by three of the local society, rang 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; C. King, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Minor and two of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1-2; G. Latham, 3-4; W. Hale, 5-6; F. Stephens, 7-8.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 21st, at the parish church, an attempt to ring a date touch of Grandsire Major came to grief through a mis-call, after ringing 1808 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Gough, 1; H. Malborn, 2; W. Smith, 3; S. Atkins, 4; J. Tinsley, 5; J. Battle, 6; R. Hall, 7; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt. At the meeting house, Herps Lane, the following company rang a 504 Grandsire Triples, on handbells, retained in hand. J. Tinsley (conductor), 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. Fullwood, 7-8.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, January 21st, a trial of skill in the art of change-ringing on eight bells took place at St. Thomas's church, Leesfield, near Oldham, when the Association eight-bell cup was competed for by members only. The conditions are that the cup must be won three times before it becomes their own absolute property. Until this has been done the winners have the honour of holding it for the ensuing twelve months, at the expiration of which time the cup will again be competed for. The touch consisted of 896 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. Four companies entered and were drawn to ring in the following order: 1, St. Chad's, Saddleworth; 2, St. George's, Hyde; 3, Saddleworth United; 4, St. Michael's, Mottram. The judges were Mr. Thomas Hattersley, of Sheffield, Mr. Joseph Pickering, of Kirkburton, and Mr. Tom Haigh, of Huddersfield. In giving their decision they were agreed that the ringing was not so good as what they expected it to be, and they had no hesitation in awarding the 1st prize to No. 2 company, 648 faults; 2nd prize to No. 3 company, 861 faults; 3rd prize to No. 4 company, 1081 faults. No. 1 company rang out after ringing 9 mins., 25 secs., 223 faults. The Association Cup, together with eight sterling silver scarf pins, the shape of a bell, with the initials of the Association engraved on them, presented to the winners of the 1st prize by the Leesfield company, was thus awarded to St. George's, Hyde; the 2nd prize, eight silk pocket handkerchiefs with figured bells and ringing mottoes interwoven, was awarded to Saddleworth United, also presented by the Leesfield company; 3rd prize, 8 walking sticks of elegant design and workmanship, mounted with a sterling silver clasp and presented by a few friends, was awarded to St. Michael's, Mottram. The result gave the greatest satisfaction to the very large number of ringers who had assembled from the surrounding districts to hear the contest. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Thomas Hattersley. Immediately after the decision a dinner was held, and at the subsequent meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing year. President: Mr. John Holden, Mossley; Vice-president: Mr. George Ford, Chapel-en-le-Frith; Treasurer: Mr. John Pye, sen., Glossop; Corresponding Secretary: Mr. James S. Wilde, Hyde; Financial Secretary: Mr. Joseph Radcliffe, Saddleworth; Committee: Mr. George Longden, Ashton; Mr. James Hall, Castleton; Mr. George Hibbert, Chapel-en-le-Frith; Mr. John Booth, Dinting; Mr. Joseph Maloney, Glossop; Mr. John Blakeley, Gorton; Mr. Thomas Brocklehurst, Hayfield; Mr. Thomas Wilde, Hyde; Mr. Fred Crossland, Leesfield; Mr. John Harrop, Mottram; Mr. Moses Bradbury, Mossley; Mr. Peter Brickell, Northenden; Mr. John T. Dicken, Royal George; Mr. Joseph Wood, Saddleworth; Mr. Hugh Shaw, Staleybridge; Mr. William Gordon, Stockport; Mr. William Marsden, Whitfield. The Association take this opportunity of thanking the judges for their impartial decision, to the vicar of Leesfield for the use of the bells, and to the Leesfield ringers for the very energetic manner in which they have worked to ensure the success of the contest.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL.—SUGGESTION TO THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—Thursday, February 2nd (the Feast of the Purification), has been fixed for the re-opening, after restoration, of the noble choir of Southwell Cathedral, and it will be a red letter day in the Diocesan History. The musical arrangements (to confine myself to this portion of the services), in all respects save one, will, I have reason to know, be of the most complete character, the choir being augmented for the occasion from York, Lichfield, and Lincoln Cathedrals. A most important item in the day's proceedings will, I am afraid, be conspicuous by its absence. Southwell Cathedral possesses, among other matters of great interest, a fine ring of eight bells, with a tenor of 36 cwt. in D. But no change-ringing is, I believe, ever done here, the band contenting themselves with rounds and the Queen's change, and I am not aware that a peal has ever been accomplished. May I therefore suggest, Sir, through the columns of your valuable journal, that the Festival be marked, if not by a whole, at least by a quarter-peal, or a few good touches. I am speaking without their knowledge, but I think the rector (the Rev. J. J. Trebeck, of Vicar's Court), would be willing to entertain such a proposal, and would be supported by others of the clergy, and the organist, and *Rector Chori* of the cathedral. There is one matter, however, which I ought to mention in this connection, viz., that a peal may be somewhat difficult of attainment, owing to the fact that some evidently bygone lantern mania compels men to ring from a gallery some eighty feet or more above the floor, security against accident being provided for by a strong wire netting, extending from the balustrading to within a few feet of the ceiling. But I do not think that this interferes much with a clear view of the sallies. However I leave the matter in the hands of my brother but more competent ringers, in the hope that something be attained. JOHN JAMES HALL.

Slough, Bucks, January 23rd, 1888.

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

SIR,—In your isue of January 14th, I find my name mentioned as conductor of a peal at St. Chad's, Lichfield. I am much obliged to the friend who sent you the report, and as they have no doubt had their little joke or "huge" one, whichever it may be, I hope they are well satisfied. As I am a ringer of some years' standing, it was a surprise to see my name in print. I should recommend your correspondent to study *truth*, but perhaps he has a new method for the study of it, and that accounts for the report sent you. H. MEACHAM.

CRITICISM OR JEALOUSY.

SIR,—In your "Notes by the Way" for last week, you take exception to what I was reported to have said at the annual dinner of the St. Nicholas (Brighton) society of change-ringers, and say you "think I was certainly ill-advised in attributing jealousy as the cause of critical remarks." I think I may assert that nobody has a greater belief in the good that is occasioned by a fair and honest criticism than I have, but the moment facts are departed from and insinuations (such as have been published) indulged in, then criticism ceases, and what but feelings of jealousy or some other equally good motive can take its place. Someone who evidently objects to his name being known, and signs his letter "Tenor bell" (apparently of base metal cast), writes, "It is all very well for a band to tumble through a peal of Grandsire, Treble Bob, or choppy, or something worse," and kindly advises me to start ringing a few short touches well. If he wishes to insinuate that that is the way the seventy peals scored by the Sussex Association last year were rung, and he will send me his name and address, I shall be happy to give him the names of three ringers of London, whose names are well known in ringing circles, and who were near the church of St. Peter's, Brighton, during the whole of the peal of Stedman Triples rung on Christmas Eve, and I shall be quite satisfied to accept their verdict as to whether the peal was rung or tumbled through. Then again "Free Lance," another unknown person (whose acquaintance I should be glad to make), "wonders if the Sussex men are not after all going in for quantity rather than variety." "Considering the manner in which the Sussex total was hushed up during the last two or three weeks of the year." Would

"Free Lance" suggest that it is prejudicial to the advancement of change-ringing, either for an Association to ring twenty-nine peals in one month, or to ring the same peal more than once. If the latter, why does he select only the Sussex (who have scored peals in eight different Triple or Major methods), when nearly half the County and Diocesan Associations have not attempted anything beyond Grandsire Triples or Bob Major. This explanation of the reason why I used the word jealousy, will I think be sufficient to enable the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to draw their own conclusions, and I am satisfied that they will on this as on all other occasions "Ring out the false and ring in the true." GEO. F. ATTREE.

NEW PEALS AND COMPOSITION.

SIR,—Allow me to congratulate my friend Mr. Hattersley for producing a peal of Superlative Surprise, with the 6th the extent home on a new plan. The peal page of "THE BELL NEWS" contains so many common-place compositions and false peals, that a good peal deserves a little notice. Indeed false peals not only appear, but false "date touches" also, which are more to be condemned, and I think, "Free Lance" might have been more svere in his remarks upon this subject, in your issue of the 7th inst., without giving any real offence. Returning to "Superlative" I beg to send you a 5056 with the 6th the extent home on another fresh plan. This peal I obtained some little time back. N. J. PITSTOW.

5056.

ORIGINAL.	B	M	W	H	REVERSE.	M	W	H
65432		–	–	–	35264	Before		
46532				–	26354		–	–
54632				–	52364		–	
63542			–	–	65324		–	
56342				–	32654		–	–
36245		–			53624		–	
26543		–			62534		–	–
35642		–		–	36524		–	
64352			–	–				
36452				–	56243	–		
43652				–	46325	–		
35426	–				23564	–	–	
42356			–	–	25634			–
54326			–		63254		–	–
25346			–					
34256			–	–	45236	–	–	–
53246			–		24536			–
24536			–	–	52436			–
32546			–		43526		–	–
43526			–		54326			–
52436			–	–	35426			–
45236				–	42356		–	–
23456			–	–	34256			–
					23456			–

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Faversham, on Monday, February 13th. Those who wish to attend should communicate with the Secretary, REV. R. K. HUGESSEN.

Wrinsted Court, Lenham.

HANDBELL RINGING.—On a previous occasion we remarked upon the ability shown by a few members of the Ancient Society of College Youths in this branch of the Exercise. What we alluded to was the skill displayed by them in executing several peals of Grandsire Triples. More recently it has been our pleasure to record a peal of Stedman Triples by the same band. It is meet that a performance of this description, requiring as it does such a great amount of application, should be noticed. These gentlemen who have so worthily upheld the traditions of the above-named society appear to be fit successors of those of former days, aud we cannot help complimenting Mr. Winny, the conductor of the peal in question, upon his attainments. We trust they will not see fit to retire from the practtce of handbell ringing now they have gained such renown.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—The 10,080 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major will be attempted on Saturday, January 28, by eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, at Appleton, Berks, at 9 a.m.

Church News.

The Communion plate, 100 years old, was stolen from Harmondsworth vicarage, near Uxbridge, between one and six o'clock on Wednesday morning. The burglars appears to have broken into the church first, but not finding any silver there they proceeded to the house. Besides the Communion plate there is also a quantity of Jubilee coins and some silver spoons and cups missing. At present there seems but little clue by which to pursue the search for the burglars.

A meeting of the Rochester Diocesan Church Defence Committee was held at 28 Great George Street, Westminster, on Monday, Mr. G. B. Richardson in the chair. Archdeacon Burney, Dr. Stanley Leathes, Rev. C. H. Rice, Mr. S. Bourne, Mr. Nye, Mr. Adams, Mr. Blandford, and Mr. T. Tighe, being amongst those present. Various matters connected with the church were brought before the Committee, and subjects were chosen on which a report to Conference will be made. A grant towards the expenses of illustrated lectures on Church History in the diocese was made. Applications respecting these lectures should be directed to the honorary secretary, Mr. G. H. F. Nye, 24 Lorn Road, Brixton, S.W.

Speaking at a distribution of prizes at the Scarborough School of Art, on Tuesday, the Archbishop of York said as a matter of social progress the testimony of art was most important, and as he looked back over a long time and compared the state of art at the present moment with what it was when he was a small boy, the retrospect conveyed a very great lesson. Art never died, and there would always be as great artists as there had even been before. We must paint, as we were impelled, and be it tree or rook or flower, to render the rock or tree or flower with truth, for that and nothing else was the foundation of real good art.

A meeting of the St. Mark's branch of the Church of England Temperance Society was held in the Grove Rood schoolrooms, Holloway, on Monday evening, when Mr. J. J. Carroll delivered a short address, especially directing his remarks to moderate drinkers. Moderate drinkers often justified themselves by keeping within the bounds of moderation, and they were a very difficult class to convince that they were in the wrong. He had often heard business men say that they required a tonic, but that tonic was frequently taken in the form of alcohol, which, from its stimulating effects they may imagine to be beneficial. Intoxicating liquors were often taken as the result of the force of habit, which after a time became almost a necessity. It had been proved on the best medical authority that alcohol did not strengthen the human body, but simply drew upon the reserved force, and when that force was expended, the body was weaker than before. He hoped they would make efforts to win the moderate drinkers over to their side, or possibly many of them would become the drunkards of the future. The Rev. Cecil White (St. Mark's), said he felt that the great evil in taking intoxicating drinks, was the harm it did to those around them. The publican was blamed because he made such profits out of the drink traffic, but the fault was not with the publican but with the public. In poor localities more public-houses were to be found than in the rich, thus more temptation was offered to the working-classess. He felt that the temperance cause was a religious as well as a social movement.

On Tuesday the Bishop of London (Dr. Temple), instituted the Venerable Archdeacon Earle to the rectory of St. Michael, Cornhill, and the ceremony was rendered the more interesting by the fact that the new rector is to be an additional Suffragan Bishop of London, a similar position being filled by the Bishop of Bedford (Dr. Walsham How, rector of St. Andrew Undershaft, Leadenhall-street). The rectory of St. Michael's became vacant a few months ago by the death of the Rev. W. Hunt, and a representation having been made to the Drapers' Company, the patrons of the benefice, by the Bishop of London, they generously consented to forego the right of presentation, and allowed him to submit two names for presentation to the Crown for the appointment of rector and suffragan, and the result was the choice of Archdeacon Earle. The living is worth about £1,450 per annum, by far the greater part of which arises from the rent of premises which were formerly the rectory house. There was a large congregation on Tuesday at the church, which is one of the most beautiful sacred edifices in the City: it is one of Sir Christopher Wren's, and was considerably altered and decorated by Sir Gilbert Scott between 20 and 30 years ago, the main features being, however, retained; and at the same time a series of elaborate oak carvings was introduced by Mr. W. G. Rogers. In the lofty and noble tower at the west end is a fine carving by Grinling Gibbons—the pelican feeding its young with its own blood.

Mr. H. Foster, of Bingley, wishes to know if anybody will send him a lead of Violet Major.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"As the sound from the bell, so the charm from the skill."

Page 217 of "THE BELL NEWS" will, I feel sure, be read with mixed feelings by our brethren this week, containing as it does a record of what I might term the memorial celebration to the memory of the late Rev. J. H. Fish. I say mixed feelings; for while the event too painfully recalls the loss which the Exercise sustained in the death of the late vicar of St. Paul's, it will be on the other hand extremely pleasing to see that his death has been so lovingly perpetuated, not only in the church in which he faithfully ministered, but also in the neighbouring church of St. Margaret. The celebration must have been in every way worthy of the man, and I would say, the man was equally worthy of the celebration. Were I to give way to my feelings, I could say much on this event—those who had the honour and pleasure of an intimate acquaintance with the late reverend gentleman, could doubtless say more—but I forbear, in the assuredness that his name will ever be remembered and revered alike by those who knew him personally, and those who, less favoured, knew him only by repute.

* * * * *

In the death of the Rev. J. H. Fish, the Midland Counties' Association sustained a severe blow, as did but a short time before the Yorkshire Association by the loss of its beloved president, Jasper Snowdon; but amidst the gloom and sorrow of these bereavements, it must be satisfactory to us all to see how these two great organisations have so bravely emerged from their troubles, and are so efficiently continuing the good work which their departed leaders had thoroughly at heart.

* * * * *

Our Stockton-on-Tees friends have no cause to be ashamed of their past year's work—but otherwise. Eighty-nine minor peals in ten different methods—several of them intricate methods, too—including two 5040's of Surprise methods, is a praiseworthy record. We may fairly infer from this that when the bells of Stockton-on-Tees are ringing, men of the right calibre have hold of the ropes.

* * * * *

The record of the Midland Counties' Association, as given by its respected President, is also very creditable. Although less peals have been scored during the year than in the two previous ones, yet the increase in the number of methods rung more than compensates for the decrease in the other respect.

* * * * *

By the way, one is tempted to ask, has our esteemed friend, Mr. A. Percival Heywood, been taking a rest lately? We have not seen much of him, save as the composer of many peals which have been rung. I trust I may be excused in putting this query, for the "bright and shining lights' of the Exercise are so few that one notices the partial withdrawal of one for even a short space of time.

* * * * *

There can be no mistake about one thing—that the Midland Counties' Association are much to be envied in their possession of such an able, courteous, and deservedly popular President.

* * * * *

The Redenhall company have been celebrating their 152nd anniversary. I should imagine that this performance is unique, and that if they are in possession of the books and records of the society from its formation in 1736, they will be the fortunate holders of much interesting information, if only from an antiquarian point of view. But think of their venerable tenor, cast in 1514, consequently 374 years old or thereabouts! It must have been a splendid bell when first "mounted." My friends of Redenhall, why don't you get together all the particulars and information possible regarding such a venerable society and peal, and publish it for the benefit of the Exercise?

* * * * *

What an extraordinary number of "first peals" you record last week! There is evidence in this circumstance that our young brethren in the art are coming well to the front. This is to me one of the most encouraging signs for the future; may this sign develop more and more. I am sanguine enough to imagine that our senior brethren are now bestirring themselves, and taking greater interest in the education of the young ones; for depend upon it, where such is the case, there will be no fear of deterioration in our ranks. I am fully convinced that where the seniors manifest a disposition to teach the juniors, there will not be any lack of intelligent young men coming forward prepared to "follow in their footsteps." Thus will change-ringing continue and prosper.

* * * * *

On the other hand, how often have we known companies go on year after year, without a thought for the future; never attempting to obtain or train new members; or if they do have a young recruit, instead of using every endeavour to educate him so as to be able to take his place in the circle, have kept him on month after month simply raising and falling the bells, while they in the exercise of a very selfish spirit have monopolised the whole of the time allowed for ringing, leaving him to while away the time as best he could, till at last, grown weary of this sort of thing, he gives it up in disgust. Thus many a promising young ringer has been lost to the Exercise. Then when in the course of time one of the ringers dies or leaves the place, the company literally fall to pieces, because they are a man short. They begin to lament their misfortune (as they call it), instead of considering that they have been themselves to blame for it.

* * * * *

Who is there amongst us that cannot point to some tower whose bells are now or have been silent through this very cause? Let us hope, however, that the bright sunshine into which change-ringing has emerged will speedily drive away these shadows and blots upon our good name.

* * * * *

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Washbrook have been ringing a date touch upon handbells. My "better half" thinks that Mr. W. as a ringer should be proud of his good lady—*so think* I too; but as he most likely is so, I will say no more about it.

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The February Meeting will be held at Lightcliffe, near Halifax, on Saturday the 4th. By permission of the Rev. V. R. Leonard, M.A., and the Rev. S. Pearson, a ring of eight (tenor 20 cwt)., and a ring of six (tenor 15 cwt)., are available for the use of members on that day. All ringing friends from the surrounding districts are cordially invited.

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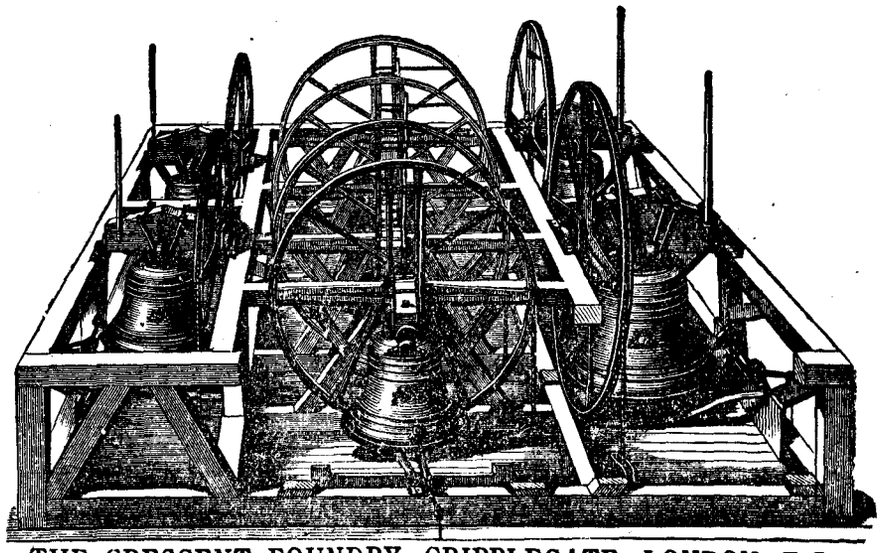

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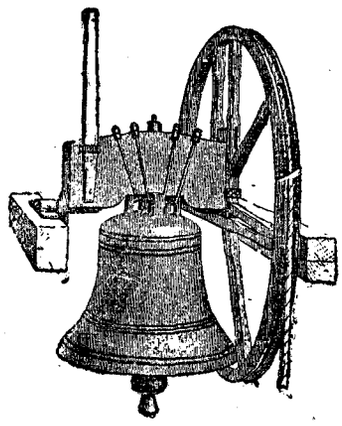

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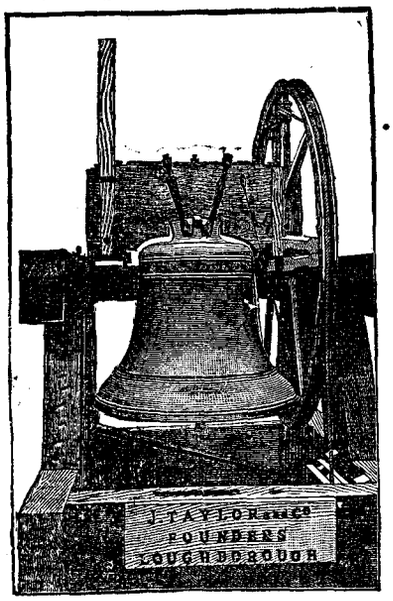

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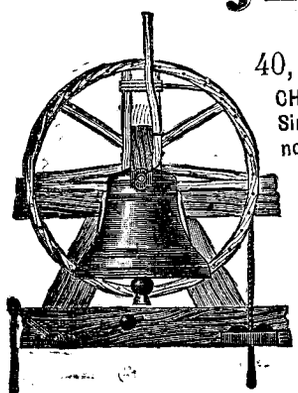

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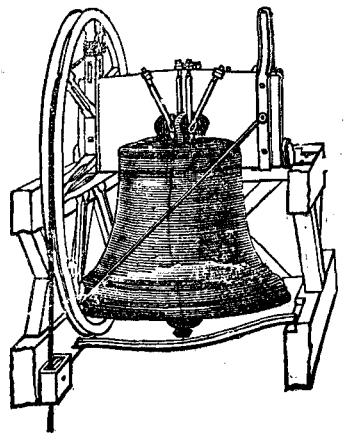

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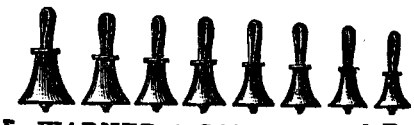

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Professor of Chemistry, and of Berners College, W.

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THE TWELVE COURSE-ENDS WITH THE 6TH AT HOME.

By A. Percival Heywood.

A certain amount of mystery would appear to surround most of the campanological problems commonly known as "extents." Such a problem is that familiar to ringers as "the twelve course-ends with the 6th at home." In "The Bell News" of January 14th Mr. C. H. Hattersley gives a peal of Superlative Surprise Major in which these course-ends are arranged in a manner new to that method. The subject struck me as interesting, and as a result I worked out what I believe to be a complete demonstration of the whole question of the twelve courses, which I now lay before the readers of "The Bell News" as another small contribution towards the reduction of composition to definite laws, and towards the clearing away of uncertain possibilities.

I shall first consider the various ways in which twelve consecutive course-ends with the 6th (or any one other bell) in 6ths place are obtainable, in illustrating which I shall adhere chiefly to the Superlative Method for reasons which will appear later. Afterwards, the laws which govern the whole proposition, independently of any particular method, will be explained. As a preliminary a few definitions are necessary, and I would ask especial attention to them. Nothing of what follows can be taken as applying to any but in-course leads and courses, consequently the bastard methods, as Bob Triples, Grandsire Major, &c., in which the course of the leads is turned, do not come within the scope of this enquiry; as neither do such methods as Treble Bob or Double Oxford Major, in which the 6th can be moved and brought home within the length of a course. The proposition simply relates to the extent that can be got out of the 6th continuously at home in in-course leads and courses.

On looking over Mr. Hattersley's twelve course-ends it at once occurred to me that these might be reversed, for the original twelve-course arrangement being reversible, and all such arrangements being from their nature symmetrical, it follows that there was an antecedent probability that they would all be reversible. This proved to be the case. There were thus four twelve-course plans before me. The question then arose, were there any others? It is known to composers that of the three possible course-ends with the same bells in 5-6, if one comes with a bob H, so must the other two if all three are required. Conversely, if one comes with a plain H, so must the two remaining ones. Therefore every twelve-course plan *must* contain, between the lead at which the 6th comes home and that at which it is moved, a number of bobs H which is a multiple of 3. That is, in any twelve-course plan there must be 3, 6, 9, or 12 bobs H. But there cannot be such a plan with only 3 bobs H because, as will be seen presently, every twelve-course plan *must* contain 16 calls exclusive of those that bring home and move the 6th, and as the only other possible calls are Ws, which if called in full number but 12, there would thus be a total of only 15 calls. A twelve-course plan must, therefore, contain 6, 9, or 12 bobs H. The original plan and its reverse have each the full number of 12 bobs H. Mr. Hattersley's plan and its reverse have each 9 bobs H. At this point I arrived, and was there met by the difficulty that, although there was every indication that a plan with 6 bobs H ought to exist, with its reverse, nowhere was it to be found. My efforts to obtain it failed, when I was fortunate enough to receive by the next day's post a communication from Mr. N. J. Pitstow containing the very plan sought. This, with its reverse, completed the six twelve-course plans which investigation had shewn to be possible. They are now appended in full. I do not venture to name them after the able composers who were respectively the first to apply them to the Superlative method, because I should be met by the perhaps fair complaint from other equally able composers that they had previously employed the same plans in other methods, and possessed, therefore, an antecedent right to the credit. Mr. Thorp's name has been usually connected with No. 1 and Mr. Dains' with its reverse, but both these plans had been before used in other methods. Mr. Hattersley gives us No. 2, but Mr. J. Carter has based many peals of Double Norwich Major thereon already. This plan was independently reversed by Mr. Pitstow and myself. No. 3 was produced by Mr. Pitstow and reversed by me, but what is practically the same calling can be found in Sottanstall's work; so that while wishful to honour those who have applied these various arrangements to the method under notice, it will hardly do to exclude those who much earlier made use of the same plans in other methods, more especially as it is self-evident from their simplicity that most of these must have been known in times long past, though perhaps not in their entirety by reason of some methods not admitting of the twelfth course-end.

THE SIX WAYS OF OBTAINING THE 12 COURSE-ENDS.

With 12 bobs H.

No. 1	B.	W.	H.	Reverse.	B.	W.	H.
4352	*		–	4352	*		–
5432			–	5243		–	–
3542			–	4523			–
4235		–	–	2453			–
3425			–	5324		–	–
2534		–	–	2534			–
3254			–	3254			–
5324			–	5432		–	–
2453		–	–	3542			–
5243			–	4235		–	–
4523			–	3425			–
2345		–	–	2345			–

With 9 bobs H.

No. 2.	B.	W.	H.	Reverse.	B.	W.	H.
3542	*			4352	*		–
4235		–	–	5432			–
5432		–		3254		–	–
3254		–	–	5324			–
4352		–		2453		–	–
5243		–	–	5243			–
4523			–	4523			–
2453			–	3425		–	
5324		–	–	2534		–	–
2534			–	4235		–	
3425		–	–	3542		–	–
2345			–	2345		–	

With 6 bobs H.

No. 3.	B.	W.	H.	Reverse.	B.	W.	H.
3542	*			4352	*		–
4235		–	–	5243		–	–
5432		–		4523			–
2534		–		3425		–	
3425		–	–	5324		–	
5324		–		2453		–	–
2453		–	–	3254		–	
3254		–		5432		–	–
4352		–		2534		–	
5243		–	–	4235		–	
4523			–	3542		–	–
2345		–	–	2345		–	

In all these plans the call following rounds must be an M, as a B would produce a course-end with 6, 4 in 5-6, and, except under peculiar circumstances, in Superlative the bells in 5-6 cannot appear reversed. In Yorkshire Court, however, where there is no such impediment, a B following rounds is admissible.

It will be now well to enquire to what methods these various plans are applicable. In obtaining the twelve course-ends two calls only can be made use of. Any method which possesses a call that cuts out the part of the course containing either one or other of these two calls will permit of the twelve course-ends, providing, of course, that such method is not internally false, as, for example, is Cambridge Surprise. Double Norwich, Stedman Caters and Cinques, Duffield Major, and Yorkshire Court are, among others, systems which admit of this treatment, and from

what has been already said it will be clear that any method that will allow of the 12 course-ends at all will allow of the use of the whole of the six plans.

Before going farther it must be noted that there are two general modes of making bobs, the ordinary and the reverse. In the first the bell making the bob is passed back over two bells, in the second it is passed forward over a similar number. Superlative, Yorkshire Court, etc., conform to the former, Double Norwich, Stedman, etc., to the latter. It is well known to ringers that the calling in Double Norwich produces an inverse result upon the bells to that obtained in most methods, but it may not be so generally understood that this method is the most precise reverse to Superlative in all that concerns the bob-making. Thus:—

A Double Norwich 1 — a Superlative W.
" 4 — " M.
" 5 — " B.
" 6 — " H.

For if, in Superlative, a bob W be called from rounds it produces 52436; and if from 52436 a Double Norwich bob 1 be called, rounds are produced again. Similarly with the other calls:—

	2 3 4 5 6		2 3 4 5 6		2 3 4 5 6
S. S. M	4 3 6 5 2	B.	3 5 2 6 4	H.	4 2 3 5 6
D. N. 4.	2 3 4 5 6	5.	2 3 4 5 6	6.	2 3 4 5 6

Further, in Superlative and all kindred methods the position of the bells in the twelve courses immediately before the 6th is moved bears to their position just after the 6th comes home the relation of 5243 to 2345, while in Double Norwich and all reverse methods the relation is reversed, and is as 3425 to 2345. *It naturally follows that by reversing in Superlative, not the* order of the calls—for that has been shewn to produce a reverse variation in the same method—but the calls themselves, the result will be wholly applicable to Double Norwich. My meaning is that every W in Superlative must be replaced by a 6 in Double Norwich, and every H in the former by a 1 in the latter. All, therefore that has been said about the number of bobs H in Superlative will now apply, not to bobs at 6, but to bobs at 1 in Double Norwich. In Superlative the bob B cuts out a W lead of which, therefore, there are only 11 in the so called twelve courses. Now just as the bob H leaves the 5ths place bell undisturbed, so does the W the 4ths place bell. If there were 12 Ws the same would hold good of them as of the Hs, and the three W leads with any one bell in 4ths place would have to be either all bob leads or all plain leads. There being however, only 11 Ws, although some three 4ths place bells must be thus treated, there remains one bell which will only be in 4ths at 2W leads, and one of these, therefore, may and must be a bob lead, while the other is a plain lead.

Now in Double Norwich the bob at 5 cuts out the 6 lead, and therefore in this method, the 6 leads are treated as the Ws, while the 1 leads, as above stated, come under the same reasoning as the Hs in Superlative. From this it will be clearly seen why no twelve-course plan can be had in Superlative with the calling reversed by transposing Hs and Ws, that is with 6, 9, or 12 bobs W, nor in Double Norwich by transposing 1s and 6s, that is with 6, 9, or 12 bobs at 6.

I may draw attention to the fact that in Double Norwich the 1 following rounds requires, of course, to be treated as part of the twelve course plan. In this course, as the 6th has to be moved before the next 6, it may be done either by a bob at 4 or 5.

The more strictly mathematical proof of the truth of what has been advanced will be treated of in another paper.

NORTHLEACH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Wednesday, December 28th, 1887, the ringers of the above church, under the guidance of their leader (Mr. T. W. Taylor), were entertained to supper by Mr. S. Ward, of Walton House, Northleach, the purpose being to do honour to his cousin, Mr. F. E. Ward, the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, who had come from Cheltenham, as the guest of the evening.

The proceedings were opened by a hearty pull on the church bells, which has usually the effect of putting a ringer in good condition to enjoy a substantial repast. In this case such a means was certainly not needed, for under the careful superintendence of the lady of the house, such a feast had been prepared as would tempt the appetite of even the most fastidious, and it scarcely need be mentioned that full justice was done to the tasty viands, which irresistibly appealed to the appetites of the company.

The cloth having been removed, the host submitted the usual loyal toasts which were suitably disposed of. He also mentioned that he had received a letter from the Vicar (the Rev. J. W. Sharpe), regretting his inability to be present.

The Vice-Chairman), Mr. T. W. Taylor), next proposed the toast of the evening, "The health of the Master of the Association." In doing so he desired to acknowledge the obligation the ringers owed to him for the valuable assistance he had rendered them just at the time it was most needed. He felt sure the ringers would join heartily in drinking such a toast, and wishing him and the association continued success and prosperity. The toast was received with acclamation.

In acknowledging the compliment they had paid him, the Master (Mr. F. E. Ward), desired to assure the ringers that the little assistance he had been able to give them was given most cheerfully, and he rejoiced that it had been the means of getting the ringers to their present standard. He could not take the whole credit, however, for without an energetic leader—such as theirs was, the hints he had been able to give would have been of but little use. There was still much more for them to accomplish, and he hoped they would heartily work together for the common purpose of improving their knowledge of their beloved art, and of doing their duty as Churchmen. With regard to the Association which he had the privilege of representing, he was glad to say that during the past year there were evidences of a distinct advance, the number of peals accomplished (which he supposed was a fair indication of the success of such a society), were in excess of the total number for the whole of the previous nine years, twenty-two in all being scored, and the truth of all being vouched for by the respective conductors; eighty-seven members had taken part in, and seventeen had conducted peals. In thanking them most heartily for the expression of good will towards him and the Association, he desired to offer for their acceptance a toast which would need but few words of his to recommend it, and that was the health of their Vicar. He was sufficiently acquainted with Northleach to know he had secured many friends, and he trusted that the amicable relations which existed between him and the ringers would long continue.

The Leader, in the absence of the Vicar, suitably respoded.

The Host next proposed "The Health of the Leader," who, he, said, had so painstakingly stuck to his post in the belfry, in spite of the many other calls he had upon his time. He had had the pleasure of his acquaintance for a number of years, and he was sure that he was beloved by them all—not only for his ringing qualities, but also for his general worth in connection with other affairs in the town.

In acknowledging the toast, Mr. TAYLOR assured the company that he was not deserving of half the eulogy bestowed upon him, he had done his best to promote the different interests of the tower and would ever be ready to do so. He had no doubt as to the reception which would be given to the next toast, which was that of "The Host and his admirable wife." He could only express, on behalf of the ringers, their pleasure in being able to meet them under such happy circumstances, and he hoped it would not be the last meeting of the kind they would be permitted to attend. The toast was raptuously drunk, and

Mr. Ward, on behalf of himself and Mrs. Ward, assured them that it was a great pleasure to him to entertain them, and when he mentioned his intention of doing so to his wife, she most readily fell in with his suggestions, and in fact he might say it was purely a labour of love. As they no doubt knew, his sympathies were not always with ringing, but somehow in the lapse of time, and from repeated contact with his cousin, he had somewhat caught the infection, and though he should never hope to make a ringer he should nevertheless be always ready to help their cause.

Several other toasts were drunk, and the remainder of the evening was taken up with performances on the handbells, and several songs.

*** From want of space several reports are left over

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE Annual Dinner of the Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers was held at the "Rose and Crown," Church Street, Croydon, on Wednesday, January 25th, the Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, M.A., Vicar, in the chair, supported by F. T. Edridge, Esq., J.P., Councillor J. Pelton, J.P., Alderman Thrift, Alderman Grundy, J.P., Messrs. Lillico, W. F. Pelton, A. A. Johnson, C. Anderson, Dr. A. B. Carpenter (Secretary of the Surrey Association), and others to the number of sixty. The room was tastefully decorated, and after the company had regaled themselves by an excellent dinner the loyal toasts were received with great enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN announced the toast of the evening, "Success to the Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers." Before more particularly alluding to that, he desired to make a remark as to the circumstances that caused the postponement of the dinner. One of their members, Urban Holman, had passed away in the course of last year, beloved by them all as a good man and an able ringer. The rev. gentleman described the great progress they had made in their noble art, or rather science, of bellringing. After a great deal of trouble they had succeeded in improving the bells, so that they went better than they had ever gone before. They had been able to introduce some young blood into the belfry and increased the staff. In a comparatively short time they had succeeded in ringing two peals, which would be commemorated in their belfry by the nicely-painted and artistic boards of Mr. Shepherd. Those who listened to their bells had noticed the great improvement they had made in their manifestation. He was sorry to observe some neighbours failed to appreciate three hours and twenty minutes' peal, but he hoped in time they would be educated up to the standard. In his opinion nothing could be more beautiful than hearing them. In giving the toast of "Success to the Ancient Society Croydon Church Bellringers," he would couple with it the name of Mr. Haley, and hoped they would long continue united as they now were, would greatly increase, and in God's providence meet together for many years as they did on the present occasion.

Mr. HALEY, in his reply, said the two peals they had rung had been performed with the assistance of all the ringers. They were greatly indebted to Dr. A. B. Carpenter and to Mr. Burkin, who had been of material assistance. He hoped that before their next festivity they would have accomplished "Stedman," and closed by desiring to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kind present of the peal-boards, which were to be hung in the belfry.

Mr. ASH gave the toast "Success to the Surrey Association," coupling with it the name of Dr. A. B. Carpenter.

Dr. A. B. CARPENTER in responding, said the Surrey Asso- were about to bring out their annual report, which would describe their flourishing condition. The Association was formed in 1880, and now included 170 members. He congratulated the Croydon society on having sent the largest number of members, viz. 19. The Association had prospered financially, and now possessed a balance of £22. It was intended to introduce illuminated certificates, which he knew would be acceptable to all of them.

Alderman THRIFT then proposed "The Health of The Chairman and the Clergy," which was drunk with great enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN said he was always pleased to assist in any good work in the borough. A minister should not only be a minister of the Church, but should take an interest in every institution in the town. He had interested himself very much with the belfry of their great local cathedral, and it was a great pleasure to him to see what vast improvement they had made in the past few years. Their society was becoming more recognised, as was proved by having such distinguished company present at their festive board. They had members of the Corporation, a Councilman of the City of London, Mr. Corbett Anderson the chronicler of Croydon, who kept the memory of their town green, and Mr. Edridge, their munificent churchwarden, present; he might mention that it was mainly due to Mr. Anderson, that the restoration of the Whitgift tomb was about to be carried out. He thanked them for the kindly way in which they had honoured the toast.

Songs, recitations, and selections on the handbells were given throughout the evening, and the party did not disperse until a very early hour.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT BUSHEY.

Bushey celebrated in the last hours of the Jubilee year an addition to the bells of the parish church, which makes a very good toned and complete peal. The old bells of Bushey have a place in legendary lore which, if not altogether unique, is curious. The traditionary saying is no doubt well known in the parish; not so, its explanation. That interesting work "The Church Bells of Hertfordshire," relates it thus:—"There is a saying very current here, 'Worse and worse, like the parson of Bushey,' which is said to have arisen in this way: Formerly Bushey had but one bell, which dealt forth a dull 'tom-tom-tom,' much to the grief of a certain parson of Bushey, who, therefore added a second bell. But the people declared that the bells were shaming him, for they called out 'Tom-fool, tom-fool.' Once more he added a bell, but this made matters worse, for the bells now seemed to say 'Tom-fool still,' and have said so ever since." The new bells will probably dispose of the ancient witticism, seeing that the people of Bushey have put their hands to the work in no uncertain manner. That the one bell is ancient is shown by the fact that it has on it a groat of the reign of Henry IV. The three bells up to the present time have been as follows. The first and second bear the inscription—"William Eldridge made me 1664 H K W B, Churchwardens." The diameters of these bells are 33¼ inches, and 55½ inches. The third has the inscription "Sancta Trinitas Unus Deus Miserere Novis." Diameter 39½ inches. This bell bears in addition to the inscription "the Crowned Cross: the Lion's Head stamp, and the R. L. Shield," and is in consequence believed to have been made at a Reading foundry. William Eldridge, who made the later two bells, had his foundry at Chertsey, in Surrey. Though it does not concern the present peal, it may be mentioned that there is also a clock bell, without inscription, the diameter of which is 23½ inches. "In 1552 it is stated the pyshe church of Bushey possessed:—Imprimis iij Belles in the steple. Itm a Saunce Bell. Itm ij handbelles."

The new bells now added have been cast by Messrs. Warner and Son, Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, and are the two first bells of the peal and the last. The first weighs about 6½ cwt., and the last 13¼ cwt. The peal is now as follows:—

1.	30 inches.	diameter	(new bell).
2.	31½ "	"	"
3.	33¼ "	"	(old bell).
4.	35½ "	"	"
5.	39½ "	"	"
6.	42 "	"	F sharp (new bell).

The treble bell was given by Mr. C. E. Keyser, and bears the inscription, "Charles Edward Keyser presented me, 1887." The second was presented by Miss Dorothy Burchell-Herne, the inscription being, "Jubilee, 1887; Tewkesbury Henry Kynaston, Rector; Mary Dorothy Burchell-Herne gave me." The large bell was subscribed for by the parishioners, Professor Herkomer having given £35 of the amount. It is inscribed, "Jubilee, 1887; Tewkesbury Henry Kynaston, Rector." A new frame has been made for the six bells, which have been hung throughout with new fittings. The work of putting them in was begun on Thursday, January 5th, and they were ready for use on Saturday. The total cost is £223, £200 of which has been subscribed or promised.

The dedicatory service took place at half-past three on Saturday afternoon. There was a numerous congregation, and the church, with its Christmas decorations, presented a beautiful appearance. The choir and clergy, the rector, the Rev. H. Burchell-Herne, and the Rev. H. Goodwin, entered singing the hymn "The Church's one foundation," and the rector (the Rev. T. H. Kynaston), proceeded with the special service, the lesson being read by Mr. C. E. Keyser. Before the sermon, the hymn "Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore Him," was sung.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Burchell-Herne, who took for his text the words "Rejoice evermore" (1 Thessalonians v. 16). After explaining the subject of the text and the nature of the rejoicing to which the Apostle referred, he said:—

Now this day is one of rejoicing to many of us here, I hope I may say to all of us. Our gathering together is the result of a desire to connect this year of Jubilee with some lasting memorial to commemorate the blessings God has showered on us during the fifty years of

Her Majesty's reign, and I trust we are rejoicing in the spirit of my text, and are giving thanks and glory to God for having permitted us thus successfully to carry out in this eventful period of our nation's life, the dedication to God and His church of the three bells which are an important and gratifying addition to God's house, and will form an epoch in our parish history. Our thoughts are therefore turned to the bells which have but just arrived and have been safely placed in our belfry. It may not be out of place if I here take the opportunity of alluding to two instances with regard to bells made for the calling of God's people to worship, one from the inspired Word of God, and the other from the history of our own time. In the Mosaic dispensation we read of trumpets (probably in the shape of bugles), being sounded for public prayers. Bells, indeed, we could hardly expect to have been used during the wanderings of the Israelites; but in the seventh month, on the first day of the month—*i.e.*, on the first day of the civil year—God commanded that there should be a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets a holy convocation—(this was known as the feast of trumpets)—and a few days afterwards, on the Day of Atonement, God instructed Moses to make the trumpet to sound throughout the land. In the service, however, on that great day, bells were worn by the high priest, whose duties were more especially connected with that occasion, entering as he did once a year into the most holy place to make atonement for his own sins and that of the people. He then wore "golden bells," on the hem of his robe alternately placed between pomegranates of various colours. God directed that this "should be on Aaron to minister; and the sound of the bells shall be heard when he goeth into the holy place before the Lord, and when he cometh out, that he die not." What a striking picture is here presented to us on this solemn day of old. The high priest, having passed through the tabernacle to the holy place, we have the spectacle of the people outside in prayer and anxious expectation. They see not the priest's movements within the sanctuary, but in the still silence they can hear the sound of the bells as he performs his functions in the high priest's office. And with what feelings must the sound on that day have been heard by the congregation? Though joy in the Lord should not have been absent, yet it was a day of deep searching of heart, and humility before God at the knowledge of sin which required a great national intercessor to plead for them before the mercy seat of God. But passing over the thousands of years since the day that God first gave directions for the calling together for public worship and the rites and ceremonies in relation to it, I would mention one instance of interest that has lately occurred, and which perhaps is fresh in the memory of many of us. I mean the hanging of that monster bell in the cathedral of Cologne, which is stated to have been tolled for the first time on Christmas Day. That bell was re-cast out of twenty-two cannons taken by the Germans in the Franco-German campaign seventeen years ago; and thus an engine of destruction, a force called into action through the ambition, envy, and hatred of man, has now, in time of peace, been dedicated to the glory of God. The name of the bell is "Gloriosa." No longer glorious as making a boast of a country's victories but glorious as re-casting and dedicating what was once an instrument of death and suffering, to the honour of God's holy name. Happy would it be if this metal of warfare thus re-shapen could point to a re-moulding of the heart of man, and divert the attention of earthly rulers from thoughts of ambition or revenge to that message of peace and good will, which was proclaimed by the angels on the first Christmas morning, when they sang "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men." Would that the melodious sounds from the various belfries throughout the world this night sang "Ring out a thousand years of war, ring in a thousand years of peace." But turning to our own church and to our own people, what thoughts should the sound of our new bells raise within us, individually? What are the meditations that should possess us when their sound goes forth? They will remind some of us to-day of the joy and thankfulness in the hearts of those who have laboured for them, and have left no stone unturned to carry out their wishes. They tell me of the pleasure afforded them in the knowledge that the year has not closed on their hopes unfulfilled. I believe I am right in saying that we are met together to dedicate these bells owing to the activity and perseverance of our working men, who have resolutely laboured to carry out this their object; and in face of obstacles and a heavy expense, which at first they did not expect, they have carried out their design to a successful issue, and in honest pride can join in the service to day. God has favoured and blessed the desire of their hearts, and our dedication office to them should be full of meaning. But what should these bells announce to us at all times and seasons? Are these bells simply added to ring out a merry peal on happy and eventful occasions? No, my brethren, we know we have not added them to our present number for that purpose only. They are rather placed in God's house for beauty, and as an additional and melodious call to every one to come to worship. They call each one of us to lay aside the cares and anxieties of the week, and seek the Almighty in His holy temple; and a joyful call it is "to those who love the habitation of His house, and the place where His honour dwelleth;" for they ask as to unite in worship in God's house, knowing that where "two or three are gathered together" there is He in the midst. But it is necessary that the sound of these bells should act as a warning, for we are liable to be careless in our attendance at holy worship. If we like to make excuses for not attending church, we can usually find one. But are we so strong in ourselves that we do not require to be refreshed by spiritual communion with our God? Our souls want food as well as our bodies. Why should we neglect that which lives for ever, and take so much thought for the body that perishes? Thus the bells from our tower proclaim through the length and breadth of our parish a note of warning to us, lest we for business or pleasure should be inclined to disregard our duty. But let us beware, lest their sound become a means of condemning us because we persistenly refuse to accept their invitation. You have given or intend to give towards their cost, but your offering of money can be no real gift to God, unless it be for the honour of His name. God grant that we may not, on the day of rendering our account to Him, have to acknowledge that we have continually heard the sound of his call. His warning from our village church; that we have even assisted the work with our money, but have never made a proper use of our gift. No, my brethren, let every one in this house of prayer beseech the Almighty to enable him to see and act up to the continual call He is making, even though it be through the labour of man's hand, and, in grateful response, go forth with joy and gladness to his house, seeking Him and learning of Him with a faithful heart. And then shall each of us know that our career in life has not been passed in vain. But when the solemn bell tolls for the departure of our soul (mournful though it may be to those we leave for a time behind), it will announce, in the presence of men and of the angels of God, that a soul has found its resting-place in heaven above, having entered into its eternal joy, the foretaste of which was experienced in this life.

The clergy, with the churchwardens, there proceeded to the west end of the church where the bells are rung, and the special prayers were there said. Returning to the chancel, the hymn "When morning gilds the sky" was sung, and the service concluded. The musical portion of the service was admirably rendered throughout by the choir, under the direction of Mr. A. Cottam, the organist.

The ringers then took their places, and after brief preliminary trials soon rang a peal which was very satisfactory.

CALNE, WILTS.

On Tuesday evening, January 24th, eight members of the local company were present at a social gathering of the "Calne Abstainers' Union," at the Castle Street Schoolrooms, all of whom are total abstainers, and rang several melodies on hand-bells, retained in hand, in capital style, and were vociferously applauded. The company comprised Messrs. J. Burgess, T. Knight, A. Davis. W. Bromham, J. Bromham, F. Burgess, T. Gale, and W. Seager (conductor). Mr. Seager, an old ringer, deserves great praise for the perfection to which the foregoing company has attained under his training, who are young men and will doubtless prove very clever. The performance added very considerably to the enjoyment of the company, and the room was crowded. The Secretary of the Union, Mr. A. Webb, said it was one of the most enjoyable meetings the Society had known, and they all said "the bells did it."

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

The 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year on Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of Stedman Caters by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the Annual Dinner will take place at "The Horse Shoes." All ringing friends who wish to attend, will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

There will be a Dedication Service and re-opening of the bells at Stockbridge, Hants, on Thursday, February 9th. The Archdeacon of Winchester will preach the sermon at the Dedication Service at 4.15 p.m. The belfry will be open to members of the Guild from 1 p.m. Those who wish to be present, will kindly communicate with the Secretary before Tuesday, February 7th.

Purbrook, Cosham. H. A. Spyers.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

10,080.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	6
5 4 3 2 6	–		–
4 3 5 2 6			–
3 5 4 2 6			–
2 5 6 3 4	–	–	–
5 6 2 3 4			–
6 2 5 3 4			–
3 5 2 6 4	–		–
5 2 3 6 4			–
2 5 4 6 3		–	–
5 4 2 6 3			–
4 2 5 6 3			–
2 4 3 6 5		–	–
4 3 2 6 5			–
3 2 4 6 5			–
2 3 5 6 4		–	–

Five times repeated. Single at 4 in fourth course of first and fourth parts.

First rung on Saturday, January 28th, at Appleton, Berks; conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5632.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
3 5 2 6 4	–			
2 6 3 5 4			–	–
5 2 3 6 4			–	
3 6 5 2 4			–	–
2 3 5 6 4			–	
6 2 5 3 4			–	
5 3 6 2 4			–	–
6 3 4 2 5		–		
4 3 5 2 6		–		
6 5 3 2 4		–		–
3 5 4 2 6		–		
6 4 5 2 3		–		–
5 4 3 2 6		–		

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th bell six times each way in 5-6. It is believed to be the longest two-part peal yet composed, and was obtained in the year 1886. I will shortly publish other two-part compositions in this method.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5376.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 5 2 3 6		–	–
2 4 5 3 6			–
5 2 4 3 6			–
6 3 4 2 5	–	–	–
4 6 3 2 5			–
5 2 3 6 4	–	–	–
3 5 2 6 4			–
2 3 5 6 4			–

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5008.

By JOHN FOSDIKE, *Woodbridge.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	B	M	H
2 3 5 6 4		–		–
5 2 3 6 4				–
4 3 2 6 5			–	–
2 4 3 6 5				–
5 3 4 6 2			–	–
4 5 3 6 2				–
3 4 5 6 2				–
2 5 4 6 3			–	–
4 2 5 6 3				–
5 4 2 6 3				–
5 4 6 3 2		–		–
6 5 4 3 2				–
2 4 5 3 6			–	–
5 2 4 3 6				–
6 4 2 3 5			–	–
2 6 4 3 5				–
4 2 6 3 5				–
6 2 5 3 4		–		

The calling of third part same as the first. The calling of fourth and fifth parts the same as the second. This peal was rung on January 19th, 1888, at Woodbridge.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, IN THE BURTON VARIATION.

5024.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
4 5 2 3 6			–	–
2 4 5 3 6				–
5 2 4 3 6				–
5 2 3 6 4	–			–
4 6 3 2 5		–	–	–
3 6 5 2 4		–		
3 6 2 4 5	–			–
2 3 6 4 5				–
6 4 2 3 5			–	–
2 6 4 3 5				–
4 2 6 3 5				–
4 2 3 5 6	–			–
6 5 3 2 4		–	–	–
4 3 5 2 6		–		–
5 4 3 2 6				–
3 5 4 2 6				–
3 5 2 6 4	–			–
2 3 5 6 4				–
5 6 2 3 4			–	–
2 5 6 3 4				–
6 2 5 3 4				–
6 2 3 4 5	–			–
3 4 6 2 5			–	–
3 4 2 5 6	–			–
2 3 4 5 6				–

This peal contains a most choice selection of changes in this method. It is the first 5024 ever performed in the Cambridge variation. It was first rung at Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday, January 19th, conducted by Joseph Griffin.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

[By JOHN FOSDIKE, *Woodbridge.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 4 6 3 2	2	–	2	
3 6 2 4 5	2	–	2	
3 4 5 6 2	2		1	1

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5216.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottram-in-Longdendale*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 6 4 5 2	1			2
6 2 4 5 3	1			2
2 6 3 5 4	2			2
5 2 6 4 3		–		2
6 3 4 2 5	1		1	2
6 4 2 3 5			1	2
3 2 4 6 5			2	2
2 5 4 6 3	1			2
5 2 3 6 4	2			2
3 6 5 2 4			1	1
2 5 6 3 4			2	2
5 4 6 3 2	1			2
3 5 4 2 6		–		2
2 4 5 3 6			2	2
2 5 3 4 6			1	2
2 3 4 5 6			1	2

This peal has the 5th and 6th each nine times wrong, and their extent right.

A 720 OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR.

By W. J. PIPER, *Widford.*

2 3 4 5 6	
4 2 6 3 5	
5 6 4 2 3	–
3 4 5 6 2	–
2 5 3 4 6	–
3 2 6 5 4	
6 3 4 2 5	
5 4 6 3 2	–
2 6 5 4 3	–
3 5 2 6 4	–
4 2 3 5 6	–

Twice repeated.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		1	2
2 5 3 4 6		1	2
4 3 5 2 6		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2	2	2
4 5 3 6 2	1		2
5 2 3 6 4	1		2
2 5 4 6 3	2		2
6 2 4 5 3		1	
2 5 6 3 4	2	2	
2 3 4 5 6	2	1	1

5040.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		1	2
3 5 4 2 6		2	2
2 3 5 6 4	2	2	2
3 4 5 6 2	1		2
4 2 5 6 3	1		2
2 4 3 6 5	2		2
2 3 6 4 5		1	2
3 5 6 4 2	1		2
5 3 2 4 6	2		2
2 3 4 5 6		2	1

MONK ON RINGING.

Remaining numbers of this work can now be had on application to the Publisher,

E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "*THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1888.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, January 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY ..	3-4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF ..	7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

The above peal was rung through meeting one short for Stedman Triples, which hrough business, has unfortunately been the case a great many times.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, January 29, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, STRAND,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	1-2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY ..	5-6.
JAMES HINTON	3-4.	FREDERICK BATE	7-8.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

The above peal was rung to commemorate Frederick Bate's birthday, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 4th, at the parish church. The bells will be open for ringing at 3 o'clock; meeting at 5 in the old schoolroom, Church Lane. Teas can be had close by.

J. HOGGARD, *Sec.*

The Provinces.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' PEAL. Tenor 13 cwt.

W. T. PATES	*Treble.*	F. MUSTY	5.
W. MORRIS	2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES ..	6.
F. E. WARD	3.	G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. ..	7.
H. ROBERTS	4.	A. W. HUMPHRIS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

Mr. Morris is in his 79th year.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

TWO-PART PEAL. Tenor 13 cwt.

W. FOXALL	*Treble.*	†R. BIRD	5.
A. E. PARSONS	2.	H. MASON	6.
C. W. BASSANO*	3.	H. CARTWRIGHT	7.
J. PALMER†	4.	A. H. BASSANO	*Tenor.*

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by A. H. BASSANO.

*First peal of Bob Major with a bob bell. †First peal of Major. This is also the first peal of Major on these bells. It has the 5th and 6th 24 times each in 6th's place at course-ends.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 32 cwt.

THOMAS STEWARD	*Treble.*	FREDERICK MEE	5.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	2.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ..	6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER ..	3.	FREDERICK TILLETT ..	7.
CHARLES MEE	4.	WILLIAM MOTTS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

First peal of Triples on the bells.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS	*Treble.*	WILLIAM WARD	5.
CHARLES WARD	2.	ALFRED ACFIELD	6.
HARRY BURCH	3.	PETO MEADOWS	7.
JOHN FOSDIKE	4.	ALFRED WARD	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—APPLETON, BERKS.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Five Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 10,080 CHANGES. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE	*Treble.*	JESSE AVERY	5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	6.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW	3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	7.
WILLIAM BENNETT	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is the longest peal yet rung in this method. The peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each the extent in 6th's place, and the 3rd eighteen times, the 2nd never there.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, January 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON ..	..*Treble.*	EDWARD ISAAC STONE ..	5.
JOHN AUSTIN	2.	HARRY WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is the first 5024 ever rung in the method, has the 5th and 6th their extent home, and is the first peal composed with these qualities in this number of changes.

SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, January 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. GIFFORD, DEVIZES ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN ..	1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD..	5-6.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN ..	3-4.	HENRY D. ADAMS.. ..	7-8.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

Umpires, Messrs. Charles A. Clements, A. W. Barkus, and W. Wise. Messrs Clements and Barkus each held a copy of the peal, and marked off all the bob leads as they were rung.

SPALDING, LINCS.—THE EASTERN COUNTIES GUILD.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, January 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAYS' 10-PART PEAL.

JAMES S. WRIGHT† ..	..*Treble.*	†GEORGE L. RICHARDSON..	5.
JOHN W. JARVIS	2.	*RICHARD MACKMAN	6.
GEORGE LADD	3.	*GEORGE SKEEF	7.
CHARLES NEAVERSON ..	4.	ROBERT JARVIS	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by RICHARD MACKMAN.

This peal was taken from *Shipway*, and is believed to be the first time tha it has been rung. It was rung to commemorate the 34th birthday of R. Mackman. *College Youths. †Cumberland Youths.

WHITCHURCH, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, WHITCHURCH.

Handbell Peal.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. LAWRENCE, MYRTLE HOUSE,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 18 size, in G♯.

MRS. ALICE LAWRENCE	..*Treble.*	EDWARD BUSHNELL.. ..	4.
CHARLES J. POCOCK	2.	WILLIAM LAWRENCE ..	5-6.
THOMAS E. POCOCK	3.		

Conducted by WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

Mr. A. C. West, of Purley, kindly officiated as umpire, and ticked off the calls and lead-ends as rung throughout. This is the first 5000 by all, and was rung on handbells 100 years old; being part of a peal of 15 (tenor No. 20 in E.) cast by Robert Wells, of Aldbourne, Wilts, in 1788. No consecutive six-score called alike. In an attempt on Monday, January 23rd, 3336 changes were rung, but came to grief through an interruption after two hours and two minutes' good ringing.

A CORRECTION.—In the touches of last week for "Causton (Notts.)" read "Cawston, (Norfolk)." For "C. Neat, 3;" read "C. Neal, 3."

CHARLWOOD, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS,

Being a 720 each of the followiug:—

VIOLET TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, PLAIN BOB, WARNHAM COURT BOB, AND OXFORD SINGLE BOB.

Tenor 16 cwt.

G. WICKENS*	..*Treble.*	F. RICE	4.
W. COLLISON*	2.	*A. F. HILLIER	5.
B. KING*	3.	*F. WICKENS	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by F. WICKENS.

*First 5040 on six bells. Rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Heffer.

EXETER.—THE ST. EDMUND'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, January 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

T. TOWNSEND*	..*Treble.*	WALTER G. GOSS	5.
EDWARD PITT	2.	WILLIAM C. MARSH ..	6.
SIDNEY HERBERT	3.	WILLIAM RICHARDSON ..	7.
HERBERT SWIFT	4.	*A. W. SEARLE	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by EDWARD PITT.

*First peal. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Parkin to Miss Upright. It is the first peal rung on the bells, and the first recorded by this Society, which was formed about seven months ago.

ST. ALBANS.—THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

Handbell Ringing.

On Tuesday, January 31, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE SPICER STREET SCHOOL ROOM,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

JOHN C. MITCHELL ..	1-2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL..	5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM..	3-4.	*ALFRED SIBLEY	7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire, Mr. T. Waller. *First peal.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

The above Society beg to announce their intention of holding the usual public dinner on Tuesday, February 28th, 1888. Tickets three shillings each. Further particulars in a later edition of "THE BELL NEWS." A. THOMAS, *Hon. Sec.*

Wheeley's Road, Birmingham.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Faversham, on Monday, February 13th. Those who wish to attend should communicate with the Secretary, REV. R. K. HUGESSEN.

Wrinsted Court, Lenham.

WOLLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 29th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. S. Atkins, 1; W. Smith, 2; E. Chapman, 3; E. Bourne, 4; W. Lawrance, 5; J. Fullwood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. S. Atkins hails from Willenhall; Smith from Darlaston; Fullwood from Westbromich; Messrs. Vaughan, Hillman and Bourne belong to Kingswinford; Chapman and Lawrance from Wordsley.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

JOHN PLOWMAN .. .. ..*Treble.*	GEORGE WELLING .. .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT.. .. .. 2.	JAMES W. TRAPPITT .. 6.
JOHN BRANCH .. .. .. 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. 7.
EDWARD MOSES .. .. .. 4.	CHARLES GORDON .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by J. Cox, and Conducted by W. BURKIN.

SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, January 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

SYDNEY LAWRENCE .. ..*Treble.*	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD.. .. 2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 6.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. .. 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
HENRY D. ADAMS .. .. 4.	JAMES R. JERRAM .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

The above peal was rung in honour of A. W. Barkus' seventeenth birthday.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CALVERLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 29th, by the local company, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a date touch taken from the following methods, viz., 480 London Treble Bob Major; 448 of Rose of England Major; 384 Prince Albert Major; 228 of Oxford Treble Bob Major; 228 of Kent Treble Bob Major; in 1 hr. and 7 mins. John Cordingley (composer and conductor), 1; Walter Child, 2; Ezra Keighley, 3; Charles Pratt, 4; Joseph Page, 5; James Ross, jun., 6; William Hollings, 7; William Davison, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GARGRAVE (Yorks).—On Monday evening, January 30th, at the ~~weekly practice at St. Andrews church, the local company rang a date~~ touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), the time not being noted. J. H. Bell, 1; J. Wane, 2; W. Clarke, 3; H. Horsman, 4; H. Birtwhistle, 5; W. Whitaker, 6; C. Langstroth (conductor), 7; J. McKell, 8. Composed by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Monday, January 30th, at St. Helen's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. William Liggins, 1; Herbert Canner, 2; Thos. Jacques, 3; James Hopkins, 4; John Dunmore, 5; John Jaggar (conductor), 6; Walter Canner 7; William Owen, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, January 29th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. A. Brindley, 1; E. Montford, 2; A. Pennington, 3; B. Allison, 4; H. Page (conductor), 5; J. Titterton, 6; J. Austin, 7; T. Rose, 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Saturday, January 28th, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 7 mins, B. White, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; H. White, 4; W. J. Williams, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. Holloway, 7; C. Chapman, 8. Composed by F. Harding, of Eastbourne, and conducted by W. J. Williams. This was rung to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the birthday of Mr. H. White, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 24th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; S. Stocks, 4; W. Wood, 5; W. F. Prince (conductor), 6; G. Lawton, 7; H. Marshall, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

MOORSIDE (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, January 25th, at St. Thomas' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. and 12 mins., was rung by the local company. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham, and conducted by Adam Butterworth, of Moorside, it being his first attempt. A. Butterworth, 1; T. Greenwood, 2; Wm. Pitman, 3; J. Street, 4; J. Taylor, 5; Wm. Sutcliffe, 6; T. Barratt, 7; Luke Hampson, 8. The above touch was rung in commemoration of the 69th birthday of Mrs. Sally Dyson, our worthy hostess of the Bell-ringers' Meeting House, Bull's Head Inn, Moorside, Oldham. Tenor 18¾ cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, January 25th, after Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 3½ mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Sholicar (composer and conductor), 2; W. B. Lloyd, 3; W. Ellis, 4; H. Winrow, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6; G. Prescott, 7; W. J. Taylor, 8. Rung on the occasion of the appointment of the Rev. B. S. Darbyshire, M.A., to the curacy of Ormskirk.

STALYBRIDGE (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 24th, eight members of the local company rang a date touch of 1888 Kent Treble Bob Major, at Holy Trinity church, in 1 hr. 6 mins. John Lawton, 1; Allen Marsden, 2; Hugh Show, 3; Edmund Schofield, 4; Samuel Hill, 5; William Fawcett, 6; James Bradley, 7; Matthew Pailthorpe (conductor), 8. Composed by Charles Price, of Eccleston.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, January 27th, six members of the above Society rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect for the late Mr. T. Drake, a member of this Society, and a ringer at Widford church for the past fourteen or fifteen years. J. Dains, 1; A. Edwards, 2; W. Lincoln 3; W. Hawkes, 4; W. Harvey, 5; W. J. Piper, 6.

LONDON.—*Handbell Ringing.*—Recently, at the meeting house, St. Paul's churchyard, was rung on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6. The above was rung through meeting one short for Stedman Triples.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, January 26th, eight members of the above Association rang at the parish church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Pattison, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; W. W. Bust, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker, 7; T. Hollingsworth, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. T. P. Holdich, rector of Linwood, and a member of this Association.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Sunday, January 29th, for afternoon service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. W. H. Godden, 1; G. Smith, 2; E. Unitt, 3; H. Brown, 4; W. Long, 5; J. Sanders (conductor), 6.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 29th, at St. Sidwell's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins., being the first quarter of Brook's variation. *W. Stocker, 1; S. Binfield, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (first quarter-peal in the method as conductor), 7; *B. Mundy. 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KIRTON (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday January 29th, the following members of the above Association visited this place and rung 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), on the back six. R. Richardson (Kirton), 1; J. H. Harwood (Kirton), 2; E. Mason (Boston), 3; F. Clow (Sutterton), 4; T. Richardson (Kirton), 5; G. J. Clow (Sutterton, conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Minor rung at Kirton for several years.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOREHAM (Essex).—On Thursday evening, January 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Rickell, 1; M. Rolfe, 2; J. Dowsett, 3; J. Young, 4; H. Argent, 5; J. Young (conductor), 6.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 29th, for Divine Service, in the morning, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, also a 720 of the same for evening service. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond,

2; S. Hammond, 3; J. Savill, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; *F. L. Bumstead (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, January 28th, at St. Mary's church, after an unsuccessful start for a quarter-peal, 546 Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, in respect for the memory of Mr. T. Drake, a member of this Association and of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and for many years one of the Widford compauy of ringers, whose funeral had taken place that afternoon. W. Harvey, (Widford), 1; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 2; W. J. Piper (Widford), 3; A. Tarbun (Widford), 4; W. Hakes (Springfield), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association), 6; W. Lincoln (Writtle, conductor), 7; J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), 8. Afterwards, with the bells half-muffled, 168 Grandsire Triples. The deceased was also a member of the Chelmsford and West Essex Band since its commencement, and trumpeter to the judge at the assizes.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Sunday, January 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Peter's church, a 360 of Bob Minor. R. Potter, 1; W. Duer, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; J. Nicholls (conductor), 5; D. Elliot, 6. Also another 360 and 240 with H. E. Hammond, 6; and D. Elliot, 4; the rest as before. Also for afternoon service, 360 and 240 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Saddler, 1; W. Dyer, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; Jas. Saddler (conductor), 6. And after service, a 336 of Bob Major. R. Potter, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Saddler, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; D. Elliott, 5; C. H. Howard, 6; J. Nicholls, 7; Jas. Saddler (conductor), 8. Messrs. Howard and Hammond hail from Braintree. Tenor 22 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, January 29th, 1888, for afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins, J, Smith, 1; F. A. Underwood, 2; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 3; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 4; E. W. Cartwright, 5; J. W. Taylor, Esq., jun., 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Violet, in 25 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; F. Wickens, 3; T. Stedman, 4; M. Heffer, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Exercise. G. Charman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; F. Wickens, 3; T. Stedman, 4; M. Heffer, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; D. Jordan (conductor), 2; F. Wickens, 3; T. Stedman, 4; M. Heffer, 5; H. Chandler, 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, January 26th, at St. Helen's church, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. Jenkins, 1; N. Wale, 2; W. Pudge, 3; W. Powell, 4; W. Page 5; L. Longney, (Croome, conductor), 6; T. Gwynn, 7; W. Hale, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to their late brother ringer, W. Webb, who was buried on that day.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Sunday morning, January 29th, for Divine Service at St. Hilda's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. And for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. J. Nicholson, 1; *J. E. Edwardson, 2; J. McAdams, 3; R. Borrows, 4; S. Walker, 5; H. McAdams, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; S. Walker, 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples on an inside bell.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, January 26th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs), in 28 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis (composer), 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. The above 720 is a three-part one, six singles and one bob in each part.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, January 30th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor in 25 mins. Rev. H. A. Spyers, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. Grafham, 4; G. Passingham, 5; J. Whiting (conductor), 6. And 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Privett, 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Hewett, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; G. Passingham. 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Hackett, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORSLEY.—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Mark's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. J. H. Ridyard (conductor), 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; J. Welsby, 3; T. Derbyshire, 4; J. Baguley, 5; F. Derbyshire, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells and by all in the method.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, January 31st, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) was rung for practice, in 24½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. This is the first 720 in the method for Messrs. Ridyard, Oakes, Williamson, and Potter; and the first 720 as conductor for Mr. Denner. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. J. Worthington, 1; Jos. Potter (first 720), 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 24th, for practice, a 504 of Stedman Triples. Jas. Strutt (conductor), 1; Jos. Parslow, 2; H. Parslow, 3; Chas. Slade, 4; J. Wright, 5; Geo. Gray, 6; J. Smith, 7; Geo. Naish, 8. Also fifteen courses of Grandsire Caters, J. Strutt, conductor. And on Sunday, January 29th, a 840 of Stedman Triples, J. Smith, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 7; the others as before. On Tuesday, January 31st, 630 of Grandsire Triples, J. Wright, conductor. Also twelve courses of Grandsire Caters, J. Strutt, conductor.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, January 26th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1260 Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original). T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; A. Squires, 5; R. Jackson (conductor), 6; J. Hare, 7; W. Bidnell, 8. Also 350 in the same method. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also a plain course of Stedman Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; R. Jackson, 4; J. Phillips, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Hare, 7; A. Squires, 8. First course of Stedman Triples by all. Messrs. Hare and Squires hail from Hitchin.

BASINGTOKE (Hants).—On Saturday, January 28th, 308 Grandsire Triples. B. White, 1; H. Bawden, 2; A. Reeves, 3; W. Tiller, 4; W. Holloway, 5; W. Newell, 6; H. White (conductor), 7; C. Chapman, 8.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday January 27th, for practice, by the local company, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. *W. West, 1; *A. Ingram, 2; C. West, 3; H. King, 4; *C. R. Howard, 5; H. Clifton, 6. *First attempt in the method. Conducted by C. R. Howard. Also 6-score of Grandsire Doules and Plain courses of New Doubles and Grandsire Minor. Also on Sunday, January 29th, for service in the afternoon, a 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). W. West, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. King, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Capman, 6. Conducted by C. W. Clarke. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. F. Smith, 1; C. R. Howard, 2; H. Clifton, 3; A. Ingram, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; F. Brooks (Kempston), 6.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, January 30th, at St. John's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. H. Gordon, 1; A. Anderson, Esq., 2; G. Daltry, 3; F. Perrin, 4; E. Beake, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Thursday evening, January 26th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Sir Robert Jacob Buxton, Bart., of Shedwell Court, Thetford, late M.P. for South Norfolk. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, January 28th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Hinchley, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also a six-score of Oxford Treble Bob Minor standing as before.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Wednesday, December 7th, 1887, at the parish church, a 363 of Grandsire Minor. J. Clinch, 1; E. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Hall, 4; D. Francis, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6; W. Wooldridge, 7. And on Sunday, December 11th, a 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Clinch, 1; D. Frances, 2; E. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Also on Wednesday, December 14th, a 240 of Doubles. J. Clinch, 1; E. Smith, 2; D. Frances, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; H. Shaylor, 6. And on Sunday, December 18th, 350 of Grandsire Triples. H. Shaylor, 1; E. Smith, 2; T. Brown (conductor), 3; W. Smith, 4; D. Frances, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Also on Wednesday, December 21st, a 336 of Grandsire Triples H. Shaylor, 1; D. Frances, 2; E. Smith, 3; J. Clinch, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. And on Friday, December 23rd, a 643 of Grandsire Triples. H. Shaylor, 1; D. Frances, 2; E. Smith, 3; J. Clinch, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Also on Saturday, December 31st, a 168 and 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. Shaylor, 1; D. Frances, 2; E. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. Clinch, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. And on Sunday, January 1st, 1888, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Smith, 1; D. Frances, 2; T. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E.

Glanville, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; H. Shaylor, 8. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor. E. Smith, 1; D. Frances, 2; W. Smith, 3; T. E. Glanville, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Launchbury, 7. Also on Sunday, January 8th, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. H. Shaylor, 1; E. Smith, 2; F. E. Ward, 3; W. Smith, 4; H. Bond, 5; W. Hall, 6; W, Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Also on Sunday, January 15th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Smith, 1; D. Frances, 2; H. Bond, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Also on Sunday, January 22nd, a 210 of Union Triples. H. Shaylor, 1; E. Smith, 2; D. Francis, 3; W. Smith, 4; H. Bond, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8.

COLN ST. ALDWYN (Gloncestershire).—On Monday evening, January 30th, at St. John-the-Baptist church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Richard Packer, 1; James Kitchener (conductor), 2; Charles Bates, 3; Henry Griffin, 4; Robert Jefferies, 5; Ben Smith, 6.

CROOME D'ABITOT (Worcestershire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, January 30th, a 6-score of St. Dunstan's Doubles, conducted by *A. Clifford. A 6-score of Bob Doubles, conducted by *W. Longney. Two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and 108 Minor, conducted by L. Longney. A. Clifford, 1-2; L. Longney, 3-4; W. Longney, 5-6. And another 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Clifford, 1-2; L. Longney (conductor), 3-4-5-6. *First as conductor.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Saturday, January 28th, a mixed company from Higham Ferrers and Rushden, met at St. Mary's church and rang a 360 of London Single. A. Clayton, 1; G. Burton, 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. Martin, 4; E. Chapman, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Clayton, 1; W. Lewis, 2; G. Burton, 3; W. Hall, 4; A. Martin, 5; E. Chapman (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and twelve singles). C. Baker, 1; G. Burton, 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. Martin, 4; E. Chapman, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Hall, 1; G. Burton, 2; E. Chapman, 3; C. Baker, 4; A. Martin (conductor), 5; I. Martin, 6. Before falling the bells the Finedon company rang four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Baker, 1; J. Wallis, 2; J. Elson, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. Tomkins (conductor), 5; W. Moon, 6. Tenor 24 cwt. An adjournment was then made to the Bell Inn, where a pleasant hour was spent, during which time a 360 of Plain Bob was rung on the handbells. A. Martin, 1; G. Burton, 2; E. Chapman, 3-4; W. Hall (conductor), 5-6. The visitors kindly thank the Rev. G. Paul for the use of the Bells on this occasion.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 24th, 1888, services were held in the church of St. Lawrance, on the occasion of the opening of the new organ. Ringing commenced for the afternoon service with 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 28 mins. G. Rowland, 1; R. Theobald, 2; J. Stiff, 3; H. Bowers, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Diggins, 6. After service 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). All standing as before. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and two singles), in 27½ mins. G. Rowland, 1; R. Theobald, 2; J. Stiff, 3; H. Bowers, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Diggins, 6. After service 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). H. Bowers, 1; Jno. Death, 4; the others standing as before. All of the above was conducted by H. Diggins. Smith hails from Lavenham; Death from Edwardstone; the rest are local men.

HATHEROP (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 29th, at St. Matthew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. Richard Packer, 1; James Kitchener (conductor), 2; Charles Bates, 3; Henry Griffin, 4; Robert Jefferies, 5; Ben Smith, 6. First 720 in the method by all the band.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, January 30th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1050 Grandsire Triples, being the last part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davis's five-part peal. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 29th, after morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. T. Vaughan, 1; S. Atkins, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Hillman, 4; E. Bourne, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, January 29th, at St. Stephen's church, Rochester Row, for Divine Service, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. *J. Reed, 1; J. Willshire, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; T. R. Bell, 4; *E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; W. Carter, 8. *First quarter-peal.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, January 28th, in 38½ minutes, a quarter-peal of 1260 changes, in the following methods; three 120s each of Bob and Grandsire Doubles, four 120s of Stedman Doubles, and a plain course of Bob Minor. G. Williams (conductor), 1-2-3-4; Mrs. Williams, 5-6. Tenor 12 size in F.

MILDENHALL (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 28th, at St. Andrew's church on the back six, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 28 mins. G. Sharp, 1; *H. B. Woolley, Esq., 2; G. Flatt (conductor), 3; J. Carpenter, 4; H. Turner, 5; G. Turner, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in Eb. *First 720.

NORTON.—On Sunday, January 29th, at St. Bartholomew's church, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, January 30th, a 672 of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; A. J. Gwinnett, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. And a 546 in the same method. T. Wright, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; D. Marment, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8.

PONTEFRACT (Yorkshire).—On Monday, January 30th, at the parish church, eight of the local company attempted to ring the last half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately came to grief through the third and fourth bells shifting in the last course. F. Gelder, 1; J. Carter, 2; F. Moody, 3; S. Brook, 4; F. Hargreaves, 5; J. Gelder, 6; C. Watts (conductor), 7; W. Pearson, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in E.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, January 25th, for practice 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; A. Symonds, 2; Jno. Moore, 3; Geo. Rogers (first 720 in the method), 4; Wm. Snell, 5; Wm. Hollocks, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 25½ mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3, Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. This was the first attempt in the method by the ringers of the first four bells. Messrs. Rogers, Smith and Symonds hail from Lavenham; the rest are local men.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, January 23rd, 720 Bob Major in 23 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1-2; T. Blackbourn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; A. W. Barkus, 7-8. And another 720 Bob Major, A. P. Goddard ringing 1-2. On Thursday, January 19th, 720 Bob Minor. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5-6. On Friday, January 27th, 1064 Grandsire Triples. W. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence (first touch inside), 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; A. W Barkus, 5; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. On Sunday, January 29th, for Divine Servtce, 720 Bob Major. S. Lawrence, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; T. Blackbourn, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; C. A. Clements, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, January 5th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. H. Smart, 1; J. Hands, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Blissett, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 12th, 360 Oxford Bob. H. Smart, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Blissett, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 28th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Smart, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. H, Evans, 3; J. Hands, 4; W. J. Williams, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6, Also a 360 Plain Bob. J. F. Tarrant, 1; H. Bonney, 2; J. Butler, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. Hands, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. J. Smith hails from Kingston-on-Thames.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 24th, four of the Widford local company paid a visit to Springfield, and rang with two of the local company 720 New London Pleasure. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; M. Rolfe, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Hawkes, 6. Touches of Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob Minor were also rung, and Messrs. G. Tunbridge and W. Harris, of Broomfield, rang their first 120 of Kent Treble Bob.

STAPLETON (near Bristol).—On Sunday evening, January 29th, after service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Wm. Tiley, 1; Jas. Bawn, 2; Geo. Guy, 3; A. Pike, 4; A. Bawn, 5; G. Daltry (conductor), 6. G. Daltry hails from Bristol; the rest belong to the local company.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—*Chiming.*—On Sunday, January 29th, at the Parish church, the St. Peter's Society rang for Divine Service in the afternoon, two plain courses of Grandsire Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. And for evening service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and a plain course of Minor. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; T. Waller, 5-6.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, January 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Harvey, 1 J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; M. Rolfe, 6. Also 720 New London Pleasure. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; W. J. Piper, 3; W. Lincoln, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; M. Rolfe, 6. These were rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. T. Drake, who has been a ringer at this church fourteen or fifteen years. Messrs. Hawkes and Rolfe hail from Springfield; Lincoln and Edwards from Writtle.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

IS PRIZE RINGING FLOURISHING?

SIR,—Whilst reading the report of the United Counties' Association in your last issue, the thought struck me, does this report maintain that prize-ringing is in a flourishing condition or otherwise? In my opinion it certainly admits that prize-ringing is on its last legs, and if the result be not better than that of last week I think we may look forward to the time when prize-ringing will be a thing of the past. The correspondence in your columns during the last few weeks on the subject of prize-ringing, has been instrumental in bringing forward good arguments both for and against prize-ringing. But as "the proof of the pudding is in the eating," we naturally expected to convince us anti-prize-ringers such a meeting that would throw all our arguments to the winds. In the first place we find that for three prizes only four competitors turned up, and as the report states that No. 1 company rang out (a polite term I presume for breaking down), it meant simply a walk over for the other three companies, for if they rang any style they liked they were at least sure of gaining a prize. In the second place the judges did not consider the ringing to be so good as they expected. Probably the knowledge of the fact that they were each sure of a prize, no matter how they rang, made them ring careless. We were led to expect such an excellent show of striking from Mr. Wilde's letter, who, if I mistake not, said that "prize-ringing was the only sure way of getting good striking." These may not be the exact words, but I think they are literally so. I have attended meetings of Associations, where I can venture to say that I have heard as good striking as it is possible to get, and which could not be better striking if stimulated by prizes. Lastly I find that out of the four companies represented two came from the same place, so in reality this competition was confined to three companies. I hope that the next time the United Counties' Association hold a prize-ringing meeting they will have a more successful one, or else do away with it altogether, as such a report will do more for the abolition of prize ringing than any amount of argument. ANTI-PRIZE-RINGER.

SIR,—Having seen in your last issue a report of 2520 of Court Bob Triples rang at Spalding on January 17th, which was an attempt for a peal, but on account of a change-course was brought round half-way, I should like to know whether this was meant to be published as a true half-peal or not; if true, how the conductor knew that it came round at that exact number of changes. Perhaps he will explain how he called it round so exact and true without a change-course. I also noticed a report of the United Counties' Association having a ringing contest, or "a trial of skill" in the art of change-ringing. After what some of your correspondents have said about the good ringing obtained on these occasions, what struck me was the extraordinary number of faults. If this is the quality of ringing they get on such occasions, it does not speak much for prize-ringing, as the striking must have been exceedingly bad with such a number of faults in 896 changes, and the judges stated the ringing was not so good as they expected it would be, and I should rather fancy not. W. B.

THE TRINITY PEALS AND THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

SIR,—It is quite time the correspondence on this subject ceased, and Mr. Lucas displays very bad judgment in prolonging it, and introducing such objectionable personalities into it. There was not the least necessity for him to start writing to "THE BELL NEWS" at all, and what does his letters amount to? An accusation of want of straight-forwardness against the Waterloo Society; an impeachment of the veracity and *bonâ fides* of a late officer of that Society; the quotation of a letter never intended to be published, which only assists him in that it shows how lame his argument is, and what great trouble the Waterloo Society took to have everything made regular and in order respecting the correct booking of the two peals and invitation to me (which I must beg leave to decline with thanks), to enter into correspondence with him behind the back of our late Secretary and a sneer to the Master of the St. James's Society, respecting a matter which has no more to do with the subject of this correspondence than the Man in the Moon. I now wish officially to state:—1st. That every step taken by Mr. Tyack was by the direction of the Waterloo Society, after full consideration, as the minutes will show. 2nd. That the Waterloo Society is perfectly satisfied with the manner in which Mr. Tyack performed his duties generally, and particularly with regard to the Trinity peal business. 3rd. That the Waterloo Society is disgusted at the behaviour of Mr. Lucas and his friends Barnett and Waghorn jun., and will take no notice of any further communication from him, or them, appearing in these columns. WM. BARON,

Master of the Waterloo Society.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Thinking some time ago that I should like to try my luck at a six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, I set about it in the following manner, first deciding that it should contain one of the observation bells always called before, and in addition call the other two before thirty times each, or fifteen times each, and the three working bells ten times each, or the three working bells twenty times each, making in either case 120 calls. I found that these three plans together admitted of twenty-five problems, and to work them out it was necessary to arrange the 360 leads into four sections, each section containing six divisions, then by arranging three of the sections into five different positions, I was able to mark out the twenty-five problems, the result of which I have carefully noted down for future reference. Now in no case does the thing come in two three-part touches, but in four cases I get the thing in two three-part touches and six three-lead bits, two of these arrangements being reverse variations. By inserting these three-lead bits with Grandsire singles, and using Holt's ten-part single for the half-way and home, the thing is obtained in six parts without any reversing in the second half, see peal No. 1. I have not given both peals in this form as they are very similar in their construction, but I have arranged No. 2 so that the whole peal can be rung with Grandsire singles. It is scarcely necessary to point out that the calling is the same in the second half as the first, only that it is commenced from a different position.

2 3 4 5 6 7		2 3 4 5 6 7		3 2 4 5 6 7	
5 3 2 7 4 6	5	6 7 2 4 5 3	2	7 5 3 6 2 4	1
7 3 5 6 2 4	5	7 2 6 4 5 3	4	s 6 4 7 2 5 3	1
6 3 7 4 5 2	5	4 2 7 3 6 5	5	5 3 6 7 2 4	2
5 2 6 7 4 3	2	5 3 4 6 2 7	1	4 7 5 2 3 6	1
s 3 4 5 6 7 2	2	2 7 5 4 6 3	2	2 7 4 6 5 3	5
2 6 3 7 4 5	1	3 4 2 6 7 5	1	6 7 2 3 4 5	5
5 7 2 4 6 3	1	2 7 3 4 5 6	3	3 7 6 5 2 4	5
s 4 3 5 6 7 2	1	4 7 2 6 3 5	5	2 4 3 6 5 7	2
6 3 4 2 5 7	5	6 7 4 5 2 3	5	5 7 2 3 6 4	2
3 4 6 2 5 7	4	7 4 6 5 2 3	4	7 2 5 3 6 4	4
2 4 3 7 6 5	5	s 4 5 7 3 6 2	5	3 2 7 4 5 6	5
6 5 2 3 7 4	2	2 3 4 6 5 7	1	6 4 3 5 2 7	1
4 3 6 7 5 2	1	7 6 2 5 3 4	1	2 7 6 3 5 4	2
7 3 4 2 6 5	5	s 5 4 7 3 6 2	1	4 3 2 5 7 6	1
3 4 7 2 6 5	4	6 2 5 7 3 4	2	2 7 4 3 6 5	3
2 4 3 5 7 6	5	4 7 6 3 2 5	1	3 7 2 5 4 6	5
6 5 2 7 4 3	1	3 7 4 5 6 2	5	5 7 3 6 2 4	5
4 3 6 2 7 5	2	5 7 3 2 4 6	5	7 3 5 6 2 4	4
5 2 4 7 3 6	1	2 7 5 6 3 4	5	s 3 6 7 4 5 2	5
4 3 5 2 6 7	3	3 4 2 5 6 7	2	2 4 3 5 6 7	1
Five times repeated, with a Holt's ten-part single at the end of the third and six parts.		Twice repeated. With a Grandsire single at the end of the third and sixth parts.		Twice repeated.	

J. J. PARKER.

Farnham Royal, Slough, January 28th, 1888.

NOTICE.

Several members (from Battersea), of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths intend spending a social afternoon and evening, at host Hopkins', "The Crooked Billet," Walthamstow (one mile from Hoe Street station), on Saturday, February 11th. Dinner will be served at 6 o'clock (2/6 per head) and I shall be pleased to receive the names of any brother-strings and friends, who would like to join the gathering not later than the 6th of February. HENRY S. THOMAS.

71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that a District Meeting of this Association will be held at Buxted, on Saturday, February 4th. A special service with address by the Rev. J. P. Gell, will be held at Buxted church at 1 o'clock. Cold collation at 2 o'clock, to be followed by a business meeting. The tower of Buxted church will be open for ringing throughout the day, and bands will visit Waldron and Uckfield (eight bells), and Maresfield (six bells) during the afternoon.

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let all things be done decently and in order."

In reading over my notes of last week, the thought occurred to me that perhaps I might have appeared somewhat one-sided in my remarks anent the duty of our senior brethren towards the juniors. If so, I would say that such was not my intention—far from it. In this matter there are, as in all others, "two sides to the question." If there is a dereliction of duty on the part of many "old hands" in this respect, much may be adduced, on the other hand, as to the too frequent ungenerous return made by the young ones for their teaching. I know too well from personal experience the many difficulties and disappointments attendant upon teaching young ringers, to forget this. I have many times experienced the chagrin—no doubt also felt by many of my brethren—when after months of patient traing, we find that the pupil has not had the natural ability to repay the labour bestowed upon him, or else (which has perhaps been the unkindest cut of all), just at the time when our work appeared to become crowned with success, he has, through some whim or the force of circumstances, "thrown up the drum-sticks," and left nothing in return for our pains but the remembrance of the many—now wasted—hours spent in his instruction.

* * * * *

And how often have we seen the case that when we have thus assiduously and patiently trained a young one in the art, as soon as he has been able to take his place in the circle has assumed airs, and forgetting the labour bestowed upon him, has made himself generally obnoxious by his pert, overbearing manner; in the first flush of success fancying he knows everything, or at least as much as those who taught him?

* * * * *

I could mention many other traits of a similar nature which we too often meet with in out dealings with the young ones, and which are equally disappointing in the extreme; yet I would urge upon my elder brethren that although these disagreeable features do continually present themselves, that fact will not justify a neglect to increase our ranks. Do not let these things dishearten us in that work, but let us "take the bad and good alike, as it comes," and persevere in making provision for the future.

* * * * *

To my younger friends let me add: however able and successful you may become in the art, never forget the patience and the trouble bestowed upon you by your teachers; and above all, never shew by word or sign that you are tempted to reward their self-denying labours on your behalf by anything which bears the slightest semblance of disrespect or ingratitude.

* * * * *

Mr. G. F. Attree quite naturally "takes up the cudgels" in defence of his Association, but it seems to me that his letter, so far as it refers to myself, leaves matters pretty much *in statu quo*. The point which I contend for is *improvement* in the art; and I am strongly opposed to any "stand still" policy. Now, will any one venture to argue that the ringing of the same peal of Major, or the same mixture of Minor, time after time, is evidence of improvement? If it is not actually "prejudicial to the advancement of change-ringing," it certainly cannot be regarded as a policy of progression. The mere fact, also, of other Associations being equally culpable is in itself no condonation, or, to use a well-known phrase—"two blacks don't make one white." As to the question—Why did I select only the Sussex Association as the subject of my remarks? the circumstances which gave rise to them will of themselves furnish the answer. In Mr. Attree's analysis to the end of October, the Sussex Association had to their credit thirty-six peals! in the following month they had rung only five more; but during the month of December a comparatively small number of their members mounted the total by twenty-nine, thus securing the premier position. Those were the circumstances which I took into account and referred to, and Mr. Attree must not attribute any jealous or hostile feelings to me in thus venturing the remark that this sudden rush at the fag end of the year had the appearance of having done more with the object of "topping the total," than for making real progress. In this opinion, also, I have reason to believe, I am not alone. As you well observe in your leading leading article, "there are wakeful people about," and I am pleased to know that Mr. Attree is a supporter of fair criticism, on which point I join hands with him, at the same time hoping that we may not always have this desirable quality to a large extent amongst us, but also that those who are criticised will give their own critics the credit of honourable and good feelings in their remarks. "Tenor bell" I leave to sound again his own note, if he so desires it, although I confess, I did think his first one rather discordant.

* * * * *

While on this subject, I would add one further remark. On reading the correspondence columns, I have, I confess, at times feared that some of our friends adopt a wrong standpoint. There seems a tendency occasionally to develop rather into mere grumblers and fault-finders than anything else. Now, a "carping critic" is an abomination in any society. He who criticises should in common fairness be prepared to demonstrate a better thing than the objects he attacks. To use a very old phrase—it "is all very easy to growl, but let those who growl produce something better." To my mind the best way in which we can maintain a healthy mode of correspondence and criticism is by every one crediting each other with good intentions and a similar anxiety for the welfare of the Exercise. There should be no suspicions that the object of any member or body of members in connection with our art is to "take a rise" out of their brethren or to practice deceit in any shape or form. If our friends were all to act upon this, and take it for granted that the others are equally zealous with themselves for the good of the Exercise, I believe we should have less personal "cutting" remarks in your columns, and less animosities arising therefrom; while on the other hand the letters would of themselves be far more pleasant reading.

* * * * *

I have not time this week to do more than refer briefly to the capital analysis of peals given by Mr. Attree last Saturday. The work of compiling those statistics must without doubt have entailed a very considerable amount of time and labour. The knowledge that this "balance sheet" has given great satisfaction to the Exercise (as I am quite sure it will have), will no doubt be some return to Mr. Attree for his painstaking work in this respect throughout the past year. I anticipate having more to note on this interesting page next week.

FREE LANCE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting will be held at Lightcliffe, near Halifax, on Saturday the 4th. By permission of the Rev. V. R. Leonard, M.A., and the Rev. S. Pearson, a ring of eight (tenor 20 cwt)., and a ring of six (tenor 15 cwt)., are available for the use of members on that day. All ringing friends from the surrounding districts are cordially invited.

W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

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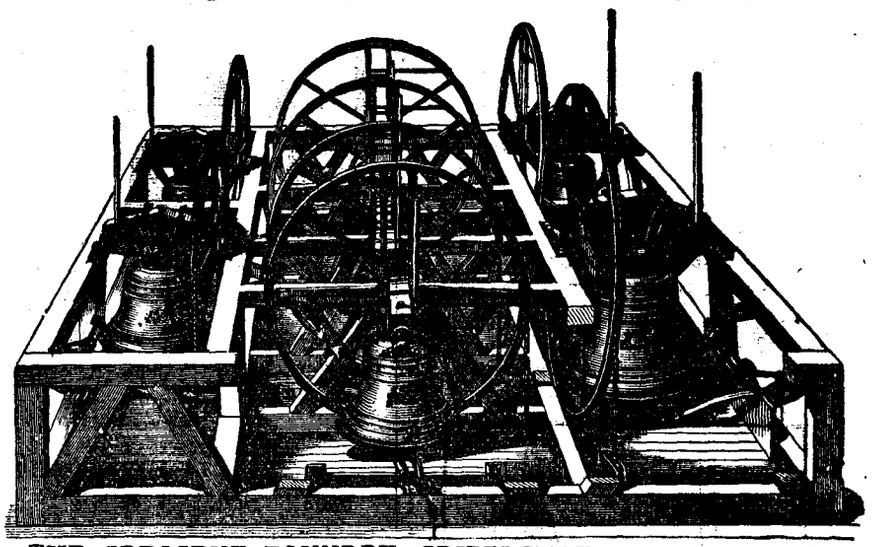

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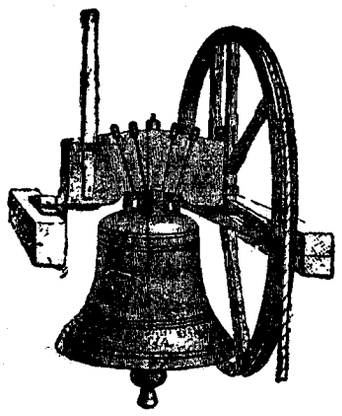

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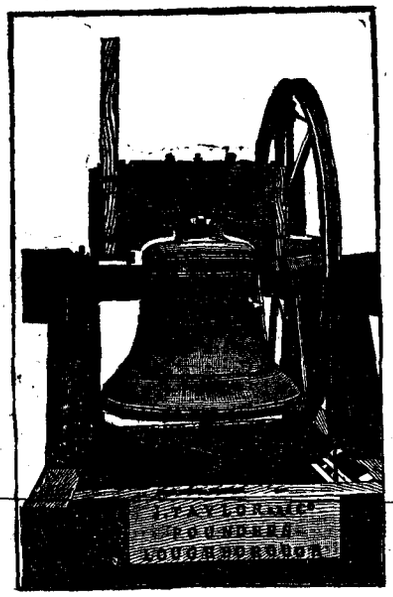

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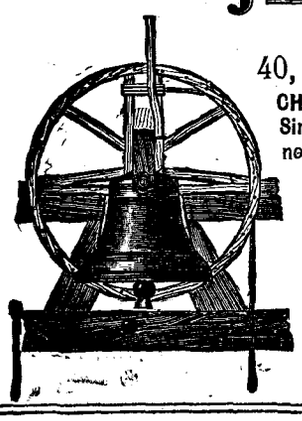

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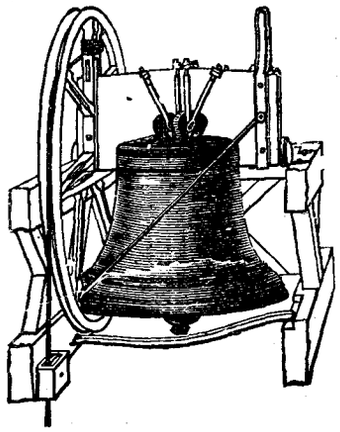

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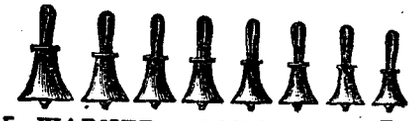

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THE TWELVE COURSE-ENDS WITH THE 6TH AT HOME.—(*Concluded.*)

By A. Percival Heywood.

Before explaining the laws which regulate the formation of the various plans for producing the twelve course-ends, it is necessary to prove the impossibility of obtaining them in twelve complete consecutive courses; or, expressing the same thing in other words, to prove the impossibility of a touch of twelve courses with the 6th at home throughout. Let me draw a distinction between a knowledge of this fact and the proof of it. That two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third is a self-evident proposition, but until this was geometrically proved the assumption was valueless as a foundation for further deductions. Similarly, without a clear preception of the causes which obstruct the composition of the twelve courses, the clue to the rest of the subject is missing. In the first part of this article Superlative Surprise was taken as the most suitable illustrative method, not only because it was the one that gave rise to the enquiry, but also on account of being, with its reverse Double Norwich, simple in its involutions. What now follows, however, is of more general application, in principle if not in detail, to all methods.

A touch of twelve consecutive courses with the 6th (or any one other bell) fixed is impossible because no touch of *complete* courses, whatever its length, can consist of other than an *uneven* number of such courses. This statement is the key to all difficulty with regard to "extents," not only that of the twelve courses, but also of the sixty; in principle, too, of the peal of Grandsire Triples, and doubtless of the peal of Stedman Triples; although no one as yet been able to reduce the proof of latter elusive method to the desired Q. E. D. It will be sufficient for the present purpose to give the proof of the statement so far as regards the twelve courses.

In any touch containing only complete courses—and such alone are now considered—it is an axiom that the whole of the plain course must occur. Such bobs as are called within the twelve courses must affect four bells only, for these are the whole available material to work on. In no method can there be more than two kinds of call used without more than four bells being affected. The calls that affect only 2 3 4 5 are W and H (no matter in what method). The latter shall be examined first. Let P H be read as "plain home," B H as "bob at home," *i.e.* at the course-end. Then:—

B H (2 3 4 5) = P H (4 2 3 5)
B H (4 2 3 5) = P H (3 4 2 5)
B H (3 4 2 5) = P H (2 3 4 5)

Read the equations thus: "A bob at home at the end of the course 2345 brings the same course-end as a plain home at the end of the course 4235, etc. Thus, bearing in mind that the whole of these three courses with the 5th in 5ths place must come in the twelve courses, the sign of equality will be seen to denote a repetition if *both* sides of any of the three equations are introduced. This will occur unless either the B column or the P column is exclusively adhered to. Take, for example from the B column B H (2345) and B H (4235), then the other course-end, 3425, cannot be taken from the P column, because B H (4235) = P H (3425) thus indicating that in such case P H (3425) repeats with B H (4235) already used. In the same way any two course-ends from one column will repeat with the remaining course-end from the other column. The equations thus demonstrate that, as all three course-ends must be used, all three must either come plain or all three with a bob H. They further shew that three consecutive Hs add two courses to the plain course, making a touch of three complete courses.

Again, the same is true of the Ws, for:—

B W (2345) = P W (5243)
B W (5243) = P W (3542)
B W (3542) = P W (2345)

shewing that, of the three W leads that have the 4th in 4ths place, all three must either come plain or all three with a bob W; and, further, that three consecutive Ws add two courses to the plain course, making a touch of three complete courses. As there are four bells, there will be in the twelve courses four sets of three courses each, every such triplet, H or W as the case may be, having its fixed bell, as the 5th and 4th in the instances given, each triplet being subject to similar conditions. Now it is proved that whenever a bob is called this entails two more, and the effect of every three such bobs is to add two courses, neither more nor less. It is, therefore, evident that, taking the plain course as the axiomatic starting point, bobs may be called so as to add the remaining courses by pairs only, until as many courses as possible have been absorbed into the touch, but that the total number of courses including the plain course can never be 12. For $1+2+2+2^n$.—n being any number of pairs—must always be an uneven number.

For the above method of proof I am indebted to a clever demonstration, by Mr. W. H. Thompson, of the impossibility of obtaining the sixty courses. From him also I learnt to work out these questions by means of geometrical diagrams, a plan of which the simplicity and perspicuity is invaluable, shewing as it does at a glance the actual working of the courses. These cannot well be adapted to the columns of a newspaper, or I should have certainly made use of them in preference to figures. So far, however, as time will allow, I should be happy to give an illustration of this mode of proof by private letter to any reader of this article who may be interested in such matters.

The following points may, then, be taken as proved. In touches which consist (as do all "extents") of complete courses, the number of such courses can never be even; that is, there can never be such a thing as a two course or four course touch, and so on. Every bob called entails two more similar bobs, the result of the three calls being to add two courses to the starting course or other uneven number of courses already obtained. Therefore the number of bobs in such touches is always a multiple of 3; and if x = the number of courses in a touch, then $\frac{3(x-1)}{2}$ will be the number of bobs in that touch. For example, take a seven course touch; $\frac{3(7-1)}{2} = 9$, which is the number of bobs in such a touch, and by no process whatever can more or less calls than this number be introduced into seven complete courses. Again, as every three bobs add two courses, a touch can be obtained of any uneven number of courses less than the extent. Also, any number of courses that may be strung together must come round, for it is evident that until rounds comes, the whole of the plain course has not yet been introduced.

The following touches will illustrate what has been stated:—

2345	H		3 courses	2345	W	
4235	–			5243	–	
3425	–			3542	–	
2345	–			2345	–	
2345	W	H	5 courses.	2345	W	H
5243	–			4235		–
3542	–			3425		–
4235	–	–		5324	–	
3425		–		4523	–	
2345		–		2345	–	–
2345	W	H	7 courses.	2345	W	H
5243	–			4523	–	–
3542	–			2453		–
4235	–	–		5243		–
5432	–			4352	–	–
2534	–			5432		–
3425	–	–		3542		–
2345		–		2345	–	
2345	W	H	9 courses.	2345	W	H
5243	–			4523	–	–
3542	–			2453		–
4235	–	–		5243		–
5432	–			4352	–	–
2534	–			5432		–
3425	–	–		3542		–
5324	–			4235	–	–
4523	–			3425		–
2345	–	–		2345		–

2 3 4 5	W	H
4 2 3 5		–
5 4 3 2	–	
2 5 3 4	–	
3 4 2 5	–	–
5 3 2 4	–	
2 4 5 3	–	–
3 2 5 4	–	
4 3 5 2	–	
5 2 4 3	–	–
4 5 2 3		–
2 3 4 5	–	–

11 courses.

2 3 4 5	W	H
4 5 2 3	–	–
3 4 2 5	–	
2 5 3 4	–	–
3 2 5 4		–
5 3 2 4		–
2 4 5 3	–	–
5 2 4 3		–
4 3 5 2	–	–
5 4 3 2		–
3 5 4 2		–
2 3 4 5	–	

It remains to apply to the question of the twelve courses the deductions which have been proved to result from the truth that has been established that no touch of other than an uneven number of complete courses is possible. If a touch of eleven courses (which it has been shewn must contain 15 bobs) be taken, although it is impossible to obtain the twelfth course in its entirety, part of it may be introduced by an extra bob. This will cause a break in the touch which can only be got over, as has been already pointed out, in methods that possess a call that shortens the course by eliminating some portion of it which contains either the W or H lead or their equivalents, as, for instance, the 6 lead in Double Norwich. What part of the twelfth course is so introduced will depend upon the method in use. In Superlative, Double Norwich, Stedman Caters and Cinques, Duffield, &c., the part will contain the course-end, but in such a method as Bob Major or Albion Surprise this would not be the case, for in the latter methods the bob B may be considered as producing a short course of one lead, with the result that the remaning six leads are cut out, and with them the course-end. It was shewn in the last paper that in a twelve-course plan there must be 6, 9, or 12 bobs, *i.e.* a multiple of 3, at the calling place which was *not* cut out by the bob B. Now it will be found that some of the eleven-course touches take in part of the twelfth course by using a bob W and some by using a bob H. It follows that those in which the bob W is used will only make twelve-course plans in methods in which the bob B, or its equivalent, cuts out the H; and in such the utilized part of the twelfth course would not contain the course-end. In the two eleven course touches given above, the first is an example of the former condition, while the second illustrates the latter. It will now be apparent why every twelve-course plan must contain exactly 16 bobs; namely, because a single extra bob is used over and above the 15 which are necessary for the eleven courses.

With regard to the relation of the first of twelve courses to the last, it will be found that in methods in which the bob B (or its equivalent) cuts out the W (or its equivalent) lead, these two courses form part of a triplet properly connected by bobs W, and that a bob W called in the first of such courses would always produce the last courne. Similarly, that in methods in which the H (or its equivalent) is cut out, the two courses form part of a triplet properly connected by bobs H. For instance in plan No. 1, in the first paper, the bells before the first H are in the course 3 5 4 2 while after the last H they are in the course 2 3 4 5; and it is also to be noted that as a bob in the first course will produce the last course, so a bob in the last course can never produce the first.

A further point may be mentioned, although it is not of sufficient importance to be worth analysing in detail. In no twelve-course plan are there more than ten complete courses, for when the extra bob is called, severing the endless circle of the touch, there are two what may be termed raw ends; to one the twelfth course is affixed by the extra bob; the opposite end, however, cannot be continued with either of these calls, therefore a bob other than W or H or their equivalents has to be placed before the original break is reached, thus cutting off a part of the last course also.

I have now set forth, first a complete statement of the practical arrangement of twelve consecutive course-ends with one of the five working bells fixed, while in the present paper the logical demonstration of the problem involved has been presented. The former part will doubtless prove of general utility; the latter I must be content to find understood only by those who have already some knowledge of the subject, for it is impossible in the short space of a newspaper article to enter upon such full explanation as would be required by those who have not already studied the mathematical aspect of the question. I trust, however, that I have succeeded in demonstrating with sufficient clearness that there is nothing arbitrary or mysterious about the arrangements of the twelve course-ends, but that, whether first connected by guess work or not, they are in all forms subject to certain definite laws of composition; laws which will still be found to hold good if the twelve courses are arranged discontinuously in any of the only three ways in which it is possible to introduce them complete, namely, in two sets of three and nine courses respectively, or in four sets of three courses each, or by splitting up one or more of such sets into single courses.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT BUXTED.

The first gathering of members of this Association for the present year was held at Buxted, on Saturday, February 4th, and was attended by above forty ringers from Eastbourne, East Hoathly, Brighton, Buxted, Steyning, Ringmer, Heathfield, etc. The bells of Buxted parish church were started with a 720 of Bob Minor about 11 o'clock, and were kept ringing till the evening with the exception of during the hours of service, luncheon, and tea, in the following methods: Stedman, Kent Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. At one o'clock a short choral service was kindly arranged by the Rector, who gave an address to the ringers present. At 1.45 luncheon was provided at the "White Hart" hotel, and this was succeeded by a business meeting, which like the luncheon was presided over by the Rev. H. Harborne, Rector of East Hoathly. The minutes of the meeting held in December last at Warnham having been confirmed, the Rev. G. F. d'Auvergne, vicar of Lindfield, was elected an honorary member, and thirty-three active members were proposed, including two new branches connected with the parish churches of Broadwater and Fittleworth. On the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. Wratten, it was proposed that the challenge bell be presented to the winning branch (to be held by them for one year) at the Annual General Meeting. Mr. G. C. Hammond then proposed that a District Meeting be held on Easter Monday. Three places were suggested, but on being put to the vote Steyning was selected. Votes of thanks were proposed to the Rev. J. P. Gell for the use of the Buxted bells, for arranging the service and the address, to the chairman for presiding, and to the Rectors of Waldron, Uckfield, and Maresfield for kindly placing their church bells at the dlsposal of the members during the day.

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association held the Annual Meeting at the parish church, Rochdale, on Saturday, February 4th. The bells were set in motion about 3 o'clock. Various touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung until eight, when the meeting was held in the schoolroom, about thirty members being present. After the meeting the handbells were brought out, and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung: Mr. Thomas Bamford (aged 84), ringing 5-6 in fine style. The ringers then adjourned for tea, after which the tower was visited, and the bells kept going till 8 o'clock. The handbells were then brought out, and a very pleasant was brought to a close. The ringers wish to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and the school.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Lawrence's, Chorley, on Saturday, February 18th. The bells will be open for ringing from two o'clock. Business meeting at five o'clock in the school-room.

57 *Chorley Road, Blackrod.* JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

OFFERS wanted for a complete set of "THE BELL NEWS" (unbound), quite clean commencing with No. 1, Vol. 1, up to present date. Address—John R. Pritchard, 40, Lowther Street, Liverpool.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.—RINGERS' JUBILEE DINNER.

On Monday, January 9th, through the kindness and by invitation of the churchwardens, R. J. W. Purdy, Esq., and Mr. A. G. Wright, seventeen ringers and chimers, together with the Rev. R. Hake, the Rev. T. H. Marsh, Cawston, with a few other friends were entertained at an excellent dinner at the "Black Boys" Hotel, provided by host Stapleton.

Mr. H. WRIGHT occupied and ably carried out the duties of chairman, and on the removal of the cloth gave the usual loyal toasts, and Mr. Purdy proposed the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, which was responded to by the Rev. R. Hake.

Mr. GOULDER gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," to which Private Neil replied.

Mr. WRIGHT then gave the toast of the evening—"The Ringers." This meeting, he said, was the jubilee of the peal rung on January 9th, 1838, of which the following is a copy, taken from a tablet in the tower:—

"On Tuesday, January the 9th, 1838, was rung in this steeple a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5440 changes, and rung in 3 hrs. and 31 minutes, by the following: C. Clements, Treble; C. Clements, jun., 2; T. Gooch, 3; S. Maidstone, 4; J. Delph, 5; C. Middleton, 6; T. Greenwood, 7; J. Ulph, Tenor. Conducted by T. Greenwood."

He was pleased to say that three of the members who took part in that peal were living, two being in the room, and Mr. Maidstone still living in the town. He had great pleasure in giving the toast, coupling with it the names of Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Clements.

A course of Grandsire Caters having been rung on the handbells, Messrs. Greenwood and Clements responded, thanking the Vicar and churchwardens, who always joined them at the annual meetings, thereby keeping up the good feeling and interest taken in the bells and ringers of this town.

The Rev. R. HAKE then proposed "The Norwich Diocesan Asscociation of Ringers," which he stated was doing a good work in keeping up a right spirit amongst ringers. He coupled with the toast the names of the Rev. T. H. Marsh and Mr. C. Clements, members of the Association.

The Rev. T. H. MARSH suitably replied, as also did Mr. Clements, who said the objects of the Association was to promote and encourage change-ringing.

The Rev. R. HAKE again rose and gave "The Churchwardens," by whose invitation they had met.

Mr. R. J. W. PURDY, as the Vicar's and senior churchwarden, replied, and was followed by Mr. Wright, who thanked all who had so liberally responded to all calls made by the Warden during his term of office. He also said that he should always remember with pleasure the gathering connected with the bell-ringers.

Mr. PURDY proposed "The young ringers of Aylsham," who he complimented on their efficiency.

Mr. C. A. CLEMENTS in reply spoke well of his young friends, and mentioned as an encouragement to them that he on his twelfth birthday took part in a 720 of Bob Minor. At the request of the Chairman a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung by the following: J. Edridge, 1-2; C. Clements, 3-4; P. Cushion, 5-6; R. Stackwood, 7-8; T. Greenwood, 9-10; A. Neale, 11-12.

Mr. PURDY proposed "The Host," complimenting Mr. Stapleton upon the excellent spread he had put before them.

Mr. STAPLETON thanked all for their kindness to him since he had been in the town, and renewed his promise made at the Jubilee in June last, viz.: if the ringers accomplished a peal on the ten bells within the year, he would give a dinner to the Vicar, churchwardens, and ringers.

Several songs were introduced during the meeting, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Previous to the dinner touches of Oxford Treble Bob were rung on the tower bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above society will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at the "York Hotel," York Road, S.E. Tickets three shillings each. Members and friends requiring tickets, will please forward their names to the Secretary on or before Monday, February 20th. Dinner at 7 p.m sharp.

G. WILD, *Hon. Sec.*

8, *Francis Street, Waterloo Road, S.E.*

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING of this Association was held at Lightcliffe, on Saturday, February 4th. During the afternoon, the ring of eight at the parish church, and the ring of six at the Congregational Church, were, by the kind permission of the Rev. V. R. Leonard and the Rev. S Pearson, placed at the disposal of the visitors; the ringing of the day commencing with a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), at the parish church by the Bradford branch. Touches in various methods were also rung at both churches.

At five o'clock the business meeting was held in the Church schoolroom, when Mr. W. Snowdon (President), occupied the chair, there being also present the Rev. V. R. Leonard, M.A. (Vicar), Rev. S. Pearson (Minister of the Congregational Church), and a fair number of officers, members, and friends, from Batley, Birstall, Bradford, Bolton, Burnsall, Drighlington, Earlsheaton, Eiland, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, Lindley, Leeds, Rothwell, Shipley, Saltaire, Sheffield, York, etc. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed,

The PRESIDENT moved a cordial vote of thanks to the retiring Treasurer (Mr. Robert Tuke), for his valuable services in the past, accompanied with the hope that he might at no distant date be with them again.

Mr. W. H. HOWARD (senior vice-president), seconded the motion in a few very graceful remarks, which was carried amid loud applause.

Mr. J. H. HARDCASTLE then moved, and Mr. B. T. COPLEY seconded a vote of sympathy and condolence with the widow and family of the late Mr. Joshua B. Jennings, which gentleman had for many years held a seat on the Committee, and from the commencement been a faithful and energetic worker for the Association. This motion was carried in silence by the members rising from their seats.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Revs. V. R. Leonard and S. Pearson for the use of the bells and schoolroom was then, on the motion of Mr. W. H. HOWARD, seconded by Mr. C. H. HATTERSLEY, and supported by Mr. B. T. COPLEY, carried unanimously.

The REV. V. R. LEONARD in the course of a most interesting speech, replying to the vote, said there were two things in daily life to be learnt from ringing; first, combination; second, duty. No man experienced the pleasure of ringing alone, but it was in combination with others. Then the good ringer was always at the call of duty, he must continually "stand at attention" and obey the orders of his conductor. Another thought which came to his mind was that it had been demonstrated as an unaccountable but scientiffc fact that bells rung upward—*i.e.* from the lowest note to the top—was most painfully disagreeable to the ear, but when rung "down" had the very reverse and pleasing effect. How many people, in daily life, he asked, were in the habit of ringing their bells the wrong way—upwards? Ringers, also, he thought, should not be satisfied with being merely members in the belfry, but should carry out this idea of combination outside the tower, forming themselves into societies for mutual improvement in various ways. Thus as time's changes rung over them, they would grow happier and better members of society.

The REV. L. PEARSON also replied in a most felicitous speech. He thought the occupants of the belfry were too often forgotten; they were, however, to his mind, essentially witnesses for God, proclaiming aloud as they rung the great truths of the Christian religion. The sage Carlyle, throughout all his life and writings, his object seemed to have been to proclaim continually the great fact "There is a God," so the bells seemed to him to proclaim to the world in tones which the passers by could not fail to hear—that "There is a God." How often did the sound of the bells bring back to men reminiscences which caused good resolutions to be formed, and better lives to be spent in the future? Among the earliest recollections of his native place was walking along the river side listening to the sound of the bells ringing in the old church tower; ringers, therefore, while ringing should remember that they were engaged in a good work, and often unconsciously were the means of turning men from the evil to the good, by the thoughts and recollections to which the sound of their bells gave rise.

The remarks of the rev. gentlemen were received with much applause; afterwards the President announced that Mr. Wm. Stainthorpe, of Birstall, had been elected to the post of Treasurer for Mr. Tuke's unexpired term of office; and a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

NOTICE.

Several members (from Battersea), of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths intend spending a social afternoon and evening, at host Hopkins', "The Crooked Billet," Walthamstow (one mile from Hoe Street station), to-day, Saturday, February 11th. Dinner will be served at 6 o'clock (2/6 per head) and I shall be pleased to see any brother-strings and friends who would like to join the social gathering.

HENRY S. THOMAS.

MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

Saturday, January 21st, being the anniversary of a long peal of 6600 Bob Maximus rung at Great St. Mary's, by J. Smith, 1; W. Bland. 2; R. Laughton, 3; J. Lawson, 4; J. Coe, 5; J. Steers 6; T. Jones, 7; P. Goode, 8; C. Day, 9; W. Young, 10; J. Hazard, 11; J. Bowtell, 12; in 5 hrs. 5 mins., and as yet not exceeded, a meeting of ringers was held at Cambridge on that day, to commemorate the event. Ringing commenced shortly after ten with Treble Bob Major. Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and shortly after these, Cinques and Caters were rung. Touches of Treble Bob and Stedman were also rung at St. Andrew's, and at 2 p.m. the company adjourned to an excellent repast provided by Mr. A. R. Mayes at the "Bath Hotel," the chair being taken by the Vicar of Great St. Mary's (the Rev. W. Cunningham), the vice-chair by Mr. W. Vail, the vicar of St. Andrew's (the Rev. J. C. Saunders) being also present. After dinner, the Treasurer of the Ely Diocesan Association (Mr. M. C. Potter), made a statement of accounts, shewing a fair balance, but in the absence of the Secretary (the Rev. K. H. Smith), it was felt that further steps for the better organisation of the society could not be taken. The toast to the illustrious ringers above mentioned, coupled with the name of Fabian Stedman, was received with great applause. After dinner, ringing was carried on at both Great St. Mary's and St. Andrew's, some very good striking being heard. Ringers were present from Ely, Saffron Walden, Bedford, Mildenhall, Sudbury, Ditton, Chesterton, and ultimately a very successful meeting was brought to a close.

HANDBELL OPENING AT NORWICH.

On Monday, January 23rd, the St. Peter's society after ringing at St. Peter's church, adjourned to a large room at the "White Hart," to open a peal of fifteen handbells, and also a set of tune-ringing bells which have been augmented to ninety-five. In the presence of over 150 ringers and friends from Aylsham, Blofield, South Walsham, Wymondham, etc., six members of the society opened the new bells with a course of Grandsire Cinques, after which Mr. F. Knights and F. H. Knights gave a selection upon them, the "Ash Grove," and "Jenny Jones," with pianoforte accompaniment by Mr. P. Sadler. During the evening several selections were performed by the Albert Street handbell ringers on their set of ninety-five. Singing and ringing, a pleasant evening was passed with their friends. The peal of fifteen are for the St. Peter's society, and are in the key of F, No. 19, arranged for one peal of twelve, two of ten, and three of eight. The bells added to the tune-ringing set are from F, No. 26, to C, No. 29, and all supplied by Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., Bradford, arranged upon their improved principle, and give great credit to the foundry for tone, and the way they are finished. Mr. Knights also received from Messrs. Shaw and Co., two new peals of twelve in the key of D, No. 21, for the company at South Walsham, and Mr. Mendham, of Raveningham. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke, secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang two to some Grandsire, and said that he never rang on a peal to equal them for tone, and the way they are fitted up. They also give the ringers where they were sent to, great satisfaction with those bells. Over 300 have been received in Norwich from Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co's. foundry in just over three years for the following; Princes Street tune ringers, 76; Albert Street tune ringers, 95; Mr. J. Souter, Diss, 20; Anchor Brewery tune ringers, 33; Mr. C. Cushing, Saxlingham, 14; the Felmingham ringers, 12; Sir Francis Boileau, Ketteringham Hall, 12; South Walsham ringers, 12: Mr. J. Mendham, Raveningham, 12; and 15 for the St. Peter's society; and all have given great satisfaction.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

The 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year on Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of Stedman Caters by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the Annual Dinner will take place at "The Horse Shoes." All ringing friends who wish to attend, will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon,

YORK MINSTER RINGERS.—(THE ST. PETER'S YOUTHS).

On Thursday, February 2nd, the above ringers celebrated their anniversary. In the afternoon they met at the Minster and rang several courses on the bells, after which an adjournment was made to the "Golden Lion" Hotel, Church Street, where, with a few friends, other courses were performed, but quite of a different character.

Mr. Howard occupied the chair, and proposed the usual loyal toasts, which was heartily drunk; also the health of the Archbishop, Dean, and clergy, which, after a few highly complimentary remarks as to their kindness, was heartily drunk.

Mr. Thompson (the vice-chairman), proposed "The health of the City Members and Donors," which was received with acclamation, followed by a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells.

Mr. Cundall on rising, said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, viz., to propose the health of Mr. West, who was on that day celebrating his jubilee as a member of that Society, he being elected on the 2nd of February, 1838, and who was always willing to assist the Society to the best of his abilities, and he called upon them to drink his health with musical honours, which was heartily responded to.

Mr. West, in replying, said they had done him a great honour by the kind words which had been said about him, and the manner in which they had drunk his health, and said he would always be very glad to help any of the young ones in learning change-ringing, as he "gloried in it," which had made him continue a ringer for fifty years. and he hoped every member present would be able to celebrate his jubilee as a member of that Society, as he did at the present time. He concluded his remarks with singing "The Merry Bells of England."

Mr. Howard afterwards sung "England's Banners," and four friends sang the glee "Of a' the Airts."

Mr. Thompson proposed the health of the retiring President, Mr. Underwood, who he said had done all he could to benefit the Society.

Mr. Underwood thanked the company for having drunk his health, and said it was a pleasure to him to reply to such a toast, and he concluded by reciting "Coll and his Cow."

Songs were then sung by Messrs. Wilson, Heppel, Wilkinson, the Host, and Ankers.

Mr. Hodgson proposed success to "The Bell News," which paper he said being printed specially for ringers ought to be more supported by them. This was duly honoured.

The remaining toast, the host and hostess, was likewise proposed, and received with musical honours, to which Mr. Wilkinson replied. "That's all" being called, the clock having struck the appointed time, the company separated after having spent a most pleasant and enjoyable evening.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—ERECTION OF A PEAL BOARD.

On Monday, January 30th, the local company met at St. Peter's church, for the purpose of erecting a peal-board, recording a peal of Bob Major rung in November last, it being the first peal on the bells. The board was presented to the company by G. L. Andrewes, Esq., and presents a very imposing appearance now that it is erected in the tower, having a black ground with gold letters, surmounted by a bell at each corner, the work being well done by Mr. Anderton. To celebrate the event the company decided to have a hot supper, and after ringing a touch of Stedman Triples, an adjournment was made to the "Oak Inn," where a good repast was provided by host Gooch, and due justice was done to the same. The chair was occupied by Geo. Lancelot Andrewes, Esq., Mr. W. Bacon occupying the vice-chair. After supper some songs were sung and touches were rung on the handbells and a very pleasant evening was spent, the company breaking up at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Harry Mills, of Tipton, Staffordshire, requires a copy of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—William Pollard and Co., Printers, Exeter

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

A party of members of the above society from Slough and Windsor visited the picturesque, and at all seasons of the year—interesting old village of Bray, near Maidenhead. accompanied by several friends, and Mr. J. Jones, of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The visitors formed two parties, six walking from Windsor, 4½ miles distant, and six riding from Slough by Great Western Railway. The weather was dry and frosty, and the evening clear, and moonlight affording ample opportunities for observations to be made as the eclipse of the moon gradually appeared—watched no doubt by many other ringers than those unexpectedly found at Bray on the last Saturday of January.

Permission was very kindly granted by the vicar (the Rev. C. A. Raymond), the steeple-keeper (Mr. C. Hanlon),—no relation of the famous sculler, though he can "handle" an oar equally as well as a bell—having opened the tower, and seen to the bearings of the tenor previous to being raised. Some good Grandsire Doubles were first rung with a view to superseding some good striking recently on these bells by a promising young band from Old Windsor, the fourth rope breaking marred the object. Several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, conducted by A. Andrews, were rang, in which Messrs. W. Leader, J. Akery, J. Jones, and H. Barker, took part, Mr. Patch and Mr. Owen also taking part in other touches. A 720 of Bob Minor, the first on the bells, was rung in 27½ mins. A. Andrews, 1; T. W. Udell, 2; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 32¾ cwt. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob. An adjournment was early made to the house of Mr. A. Warrell, the sexton, where Messrs. Leader, Udell, and the Fussell brothers, of Slough, rendered several popular airs upon the handbells—not before however some frugal provisions had been ferociously attacked, which were homely arranged by Miss A. Warrell, an engaging daughter of mine host. The majority of visitors are members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, in connection with which the tower of Bray is amalgamated, and the local ringers practising change-ringing under the instruction of Mr. W. A. Garraway, of Boyne Hill. Excellent improvement in the "go" of the tenor has been effected by Mr. E. Rogers, of Maidenhead, several suggestions of alteration having been made by the Master of the Guild, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, viz., to the stock and bearings. It was mentioned that the correct weight of the tenor was found marked on the inside of the bell. For many years this bell was reputed to be 36 cwt., and like numerous other tenors wonderfully "increased" in weight, possibly our Editor may explain "how," in one of his forthcoming comments in "THE BELL NEWS." The Slough contingent were glad to hear in the course of a few days that the walking division reached Windsor in safety under the able protection of Mr. J. Jones. W. H. F.

A FRIENDLY MEETING.

On Saturday, January 28th, 1888, the Christ Church Society of change-ringers, West Bromwich, and a few friends, met at the "Crown Inn," when a good substantial supper was served, to which all present did ample justice. The cloth being drawn, Mr. S. Reeves was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. Smith, of Netherton, to the vice-chair, when the usual toasts were gone through.

Mr. SMALL, in a few remarks said he hoped the time was not far distant when he should hear of more than one method being rung by the above Society; at the same time he was pleased that they had made the progress they had.

Mr. SMITH, in responding to the toast of the visitors, said that it had been a great satisfaction to him (and he thought he might at the same time say for all) to be present on this occasion, and he hoped it would not be the last time he should have the pleasure of their company.

The remainder of the evening was spent in some plain courses on the handbells, and some songs and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, January 17th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Clark, 1; E. Chapman, 2; A. Pittam, 3; —. Stevens, 4; A. Tennant (conductor), 5; D. W. Griggs, 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. G. Newson, 1; E. Chapman, 2; A. Tennant, 3; A. Pittam, 4; B. Foskett, 5; W. Arscott, 6.

ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, February 4th, the members of the above company, with a few friends, to the number of 22, had their annual supper (through the kind generosity of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bridges) at the Plough Inn, Beddington. Previous to the supper ten of the company met at the church and successfully attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters (see peal column). Having finished the peal they made the best of their way to Host Wilkinson, where the rest of the company were all ready to sit down. Having received the congratulations on the success of the peal, Dr. Arthur B. Carpenter took the chair, grace was said, and "go" was called for peal number two, which was anything but a silent one, but it came round in excellent style, this time the composer being Hostess Watkinson, and a thorough good composition it was. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair and duly honoured. Glasses then being filled the toast of the evening was given—the Rev. Canon Bridges.

The CHAIRMAN, in giving this toast, said that it was needless for him to remark on the many kindnesses for which the Beddington company were indebted to the Rector that nothing went wrong in bell-loft or ringing-chamber but what was speedily righted through his kindness, and he hoped that they should be able to meet for many years to come to drink to the good health of the Rev. Canon Bridges, and also Mrs. Bridges.

This toast was drank with musical honours. The toast of the visitors, honorary members, "THE BELL NEWS," etc, having been given and duly honoured, songs were sung by Messrs. Trappitt, Welling, Gordon, Chapman, and others, tunes on the handbells. etc., the company breaking up about 11 o'clock, each one having thoroughly enjoyed his supper and the musical hours after.

ST. WOOLO'S GUILD, NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

This promising young band of ringers, by the kind invitation of Edward Davies, Esq., churchwarden of Bassalleg, visited that parish on Saturday, January 29th, for the purpose of trying their skill upon the six bells in that tower, and with a hope that by showing what they have accomplished during the past twelve months would be the means of inducing the Bassalleg ringers to make an attempt to do likewise. On arrival at the tower, however, they were disappointed to find that the treble bell could not be rung, because the "chief ringer" had disregarded the order to get some needful repairs done. Under the circumstances five bells were raised, and a few changes rung, but with only little pleasure to the ringers, on account of the deafening noise of the bells, which descended through the crevices and a large hole in the ceiling.

Reform is much needed in this parish, but the management of bells and bellringers is little understood by the authorities, and their care is left almost entirely to "an old hand." The readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will be amused to learn that a set of new ropes having been attached to the bells, the "chief ringer" has most effectually adjusted their length by *cutting off the ends* below the sallies. Making the best of disappointments the Guild turned their attention to their handbells, and derived much pleasure in performing in the presence of the Vicar and churchwardens, who showed their appreciation by their hospitality.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATIOM.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING was held on Saturday, Januuary 28th, at Radcliffe when a good number of members were present from Manchester, Bolton, Heywood, Rochdale, Bury, Worsley, Walkden, Eccles, Ashton-under-Lyne, Ramsbottom, and Newchurch. Touches of Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, etc., were rung at intervals during the afternoon and evening. The meeting was held at six o'clock, and was presided over by the Rev. H. A. Starkie, Rector, who gave an excellent address, and congratulated the ringers on the formation of the Association, and stated that he would be glad to become an honorary member of the Association. Thirteen new members were elected. including ten from the parish church of Lancaster. This announcement was received with applause. Votes of thanks to the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and schools, brought a very successful meeting to a close.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.
" 6 " .. .. 3s. 3d.
" 3 " .. .. 1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1888.

AT the anniversary meeting of the York Minster society, a report of which will be found in another column, a member present, in proposing "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,'" very properly added that this paper being got up "specially for ringers, ought to be more supported by them." With such an assertion we absolutely agree. We may point, with some degree of pride, perhaps, to the circulation of our journal among the clergy and many of the non-ringing public, but the very people for whose special behoof it was called into existence, are practically in a minority of its supporters. It is not contended for a moment that any great part of the Exercise never read "THE BELL NEWS," because the contrary is the case. But reading the paper, and supporting it, are totally different things, and the former is we are sorry to say too great an extent the rule. Several of our friends who have passed their holiday season in different parts of the country, on meeting with the ringers of the town in which they are for the time located, have asked the question "Do you *all* take in 'THE BELL NEWS?'" In too many cases the answer has been "Yes, so-and-so has a copy every week, and he lends it to us." Answers of this sort sometimes have a tendency to disturb the equilibrium of temper which the questioner tries hard to preserve.

That in the community of persons following such an art as that of change-ringing it should be said a feeling of stolid apathy exists with regard to the fortunes of the publication compiled for them, and them alone, is a matter to be greatly regretted, to say the least of it.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHWARK.—ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, January 30, 1888, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

W. W. THORNE	*Treble.*	JOSEPH BARRY	5.
HENRY LANGDON	2.	FREDERICK BATE	6.
WILLIAM CECIL	3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	7.
RICHARD FRENCH	4.	WILLIAM H. JUDD	*Tenor.*

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The above peal was rung to commemorate Frederick Bate's birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

The Provinces.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SS. CHAD AND MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in D.

JAMES PETTIT	*Treble.*	FRANCIS E. DAWE	6.
HENRY SPRINGHALL	2.	MATTHEW A. WOOD ..	7.
WILLIAM CECIL	3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH ..	8.
SAMUEL JOYCE	4.	JOHN W. HAYES	9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	5.	EDWIN HORREX	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This is the first peal in the method on the Cathedral bells. All the above company hail from London, and wish to take this opportunity of tendering their thanks to the Dean for kindly granting permission, also to Mr. E. Gallimore for having everything in readiness and the belfry in excellent order; and Mr. A. E. Greenwood deserves credit for the easy manner in which the bells can be turned about.

CRETINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

On Wednesday, February 1, 1888, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES, IN FOURTEEN DIFFERENT METHODS, UPON FIVE BELLS;

Being three 6-scores of each of the following:—

PRIMROSE, EARL SOHAM DOUBLES, EARL SOHAM DELIGHT, DREAM, HUDIBRAS, FORTUNE, MORNING STAR, EVENING STAR, COLLEGE DOUBLES, GRANDSIRE, APRIL DAY, LITTLE BOB, OLD DOUBLES, AND PLAIN DOUBLES.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WALTER BEDINGFIELD	*Treble.*	JOHN SELF	3.
S. WIGHTMAN JUN.	2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN ..	4.

WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. *Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, *in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHARLES BARRETT	*Treble.*	OLIVER JAMES	5.
WALTER REA	2.	HARRY MARTIN	6.
WILLIAM JAMES	3.	GEORGE HAYWARD	7.
THOMAS LEES	4.	JAMES PERRY	*Tenor*

Composed by the late CHARLES RAVENSCROFT, of Bromsgrove, and Conducted by G. HAYWARD.

The above is supposed to be the first peal of Bob Triples on the bells. Messrs Barrett and Lees hail from Stourbridge; H. Martin from Belbroughton, and the rest from Bromsgrove.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, February 7, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

JOE HARDCASTLE, JUN.* ..	*Treble.*	THOMAS POLLITT	6.
A. MOULSON	2.	J. H. FISHER	7.
H. RAISTRICK	3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE	8.
S. H. LONDON†	4.	†BEN. F. LAMB	9.
J. BROADLEY	5.	FRED LONDON	*Tenor.*

Compoeed by THOS. POLLITT and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTEE.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, and will be found in page 472 o "THE BELL NEWS" was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Joshua B. Jennings secretary to the company, who had been a ringer in Bradord for over 40 years.
* First peal; 18 years of age on February 2nd. † First peal of Royal.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS,

Being a 720 each of the following:—

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, COLLEGE EXERCISE, COLLEGE PLEASURE, NEW LONDON PLEASURE, VIOLET, OXFORD, AND KENT,

Tenor 7¼ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST*	*Treble.*	MARK JENKINS	4.
ROBERT JORDAN	2.	†EDWIN JORDAN	5.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN ..	3.	DAVID JORDAN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by EDWIN JORDAN.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, February 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES GRATRIX	*Treble.*	JOHN EACHUS	6.
JOHN LEIGH..	2.	JOSEPH MELLOR	7.
JAMES WOOD	3.	SAMUEL WOOD	8.
T. G. DOWNS	4.	JOHN THORP	9.
ERNEST BISHOP	5.	GEORGE LONGDEN	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of E. Bishop.

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, February 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt.

A. E. WREAKS	*Treble.*	J. B. TAYLOR	5.
E. BISHOP	2.	G. LORD	6.
H. NUTTER	3.	J. T. STOTT	7.
J. ASHWORTH	4.	J. TATTERSALL	*Tenor.*

Conducted by A. E. WREAKS.

The above peal was rung in honour of E. Bishop's birthday. A. E. Wreaks hails from Manchester; E. Bishop, from Bury; Messrs. Nutter and Tattersall from Ramsbottom; J. Ashworth from Waterfoot; Messrs. Taylor, Lord, and Stott from Newchurch.

MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

On Friday, February 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL 5200 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

HERR VON COLLINSON ..	*Treble.*	WALTER BARRACLOUGH ..	6.
TOLSON CRAWSHAW	2.	RALPH ELLISS	7.
WILLIAM HOLMES	3.	WALTER PEACOCK	8.
SAM PEACOCK	4.	BENJAMIN ROBINSON ..	9.
HENRY BARKER	5.	JOAH PEACOCK	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by JOAH PEACOCK.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

The February meeting will be held on Monday, February 13th, at Chester-le-Street. Dinner at the Lambton Arms at 2 o'clock, 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for as early as possible to the Secretary. The Committee will meet at the Hotel at 1 o'clock. Members who have not paid their subscriptions for the current year are requested to do so.

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

16, *Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees.*

[This notice was accidentally overlooked by our printer last week.—ED.]

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

GEORGE MAXIM	*Treble.*	ARTHUR SCOTT	5.
WILLIAM HOWELL	2.	CHARLES SILLITOE	6.
ROBERT MINGAY	3.	JOHN LEE	7.
JAMES CAMPIN	4.	HARRY HARPER	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. J. BRIERLY, and Conducted by CHAS. SILLITOE.

The above was rung as a birthday peal, with H. Harper, who has attained his 50th year. Messrs. Lee, Maxim and Mingay are from Foxearth; the rest are local ringers.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

O. EVERSHED	*Treble.*	W. SHORT	5.
C. BLACKMAN	2.	F. LUXFORD	6.
G. BALCHIN	3.	H. CHANDLER	7.
G. CHARMAN	4.	*R. LYNN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHAS. BLACKMAN.

*First peal. Messrs. Charman, Chandler and Short hail from Warnham, the rest are members of the local hand.

MOTTRAM.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SAMUEL WOOD	*Treble.*	JAMES S. WILDE	5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY	2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY	6.
WALTER SLATER..	3.	THOMAS WILDE..	7.
G. E. TURNER	4.	GEORGE LONGDEN	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

OXHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 8½ cwt.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL ..	*Treble.*	E. P. DEBENHAM	5.
JOHN C. MITCHELL	2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. ..	6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ..	3	THOMAS WALLER	7.
ALFRED BARNES	4.	*ARTHUR HULL	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN C. MITCHELL.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells, which were opened on June 18th, and through the kindness of the vicar, a tablet, recording the performance, is to be placed in the belfry. It was rung to commemorate the anniversary of the peal of Grandsire Triples at Christchurch, Southgate, last year, which was the first peal the conductor called.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB AND SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY MILLS	*Treble.*	JOHN GOODMAN..	5.
WILLIAM PARDOE	2.	GEORGE HUGHES	6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ..	3.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT	7.
ADAM HILL	4.	BENJAMIN STARKY ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

Messrs. Micklewright and Goodman hail from Dudley. The rest belong to the local company.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY HIPKISS	*Treble.*	ADAM HILL	5.
THOMAS HORTON	2.	REUBEN HALL	6.
SAMUEL REEVES	3.	WILLIAM R. SMALL	7.
JAMES HALL	4.	WILLIAM COOPER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal of Grandsire Triples rung on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the vicar for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal, and also to the ringers for getting everything in readiness.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES. Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS	*Treble.*	WILLIAM P. GARRETT	5.
FREDK. TILLETT	2.	CHARLES MEE	6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER	3.	WILLIAM MOTTS	7.
HENRY BOWELL	4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

First peal in the method on the bells, and the 50th peal by C. Mee.

MILNROW.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

JNO. MILLETT	*Treble.*	WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY	5.
FRANK BIRTWISTLE	2.	ALFRED CLEGG	6.
JAS. PILKINGTON	3.	JOHN JAS. BUCKLEY	7.
GEORGE HOYLE	4.	SAMUEL BRIERLEY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Messrs. Millett, Pilkington and Walmsley hail from Heywood; Birtwistle and Hoyle from Rochdale; the rest belong to Milnrow.

SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

SYDNEY LAWRENCE	*Treble.*	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS	5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD	2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN	6.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS	3.	†WILLIAM W. GIFFORD	7.
HENRY D. ADAMS	4.	WILLIAM TRYHORN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM W. GIFFORD.

†First peal as conductor.

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES W. TRAPPITT	*Treble.*	GEORGE WELLING	6.
JOHN BRANCH	2.	DR. A. B. CARPENTER	7.
WILLIAM BURKIN	3.	CHARLES BANCE	8.
CHARLES E. MALIM, ESQ.	4.	CHARLES GORDON	9.
EDGAR BENNETT	5.	JOSEPH ZEALEY	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by E. BENNETT.

The above peal has the 6th behind the 8th and 9th throughout.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH).

On Friday, February 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A TWELVE-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS*	*Treble.*	FREDERICK RICE	5.
JOSEPH NEWNHAM	2.	FREDERICK WICKENS	6.
BENJAMIN KING	3.	ALFRED F. WICKENS	7.
GEORGE WICKENS‡	4.	WILLIAM COLLISON	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal. ‡First peal with a bob bell.]

ST. ALBANS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, February 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY NATIONAL SCHOOLS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

HENRY LEWIS	1-2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL	5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	3-4.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	7-8.

EDWARD P. DEBENHAM 9-10.

Composed by J. COX, and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire, Mr. Alfred Sibley, who marked off every treble lead as rung.

Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, after Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church, the local company rang a date touch of Bob Major, 1888 changes, composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 21st, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; H. G. Gardener (conductor), 8. Tenor 17¾ cwt. in F.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 26th, at St. Luke's church, in honour of the marriage of the Rev. James Pickup, to Miss Grier, of Ireland, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Schofield, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; J. Harrison, 3; D. Wild, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; Jno. Millett (conductor), 6; W. R. Barrett, 7; Jas. Millett, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service, John Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins Jeremiah Bennett, 1; Richard E. Grove (conductor), 2; Harry Williams, 3; John Bennett, 4; Harry Adams, 5; Thomas Salter, 6; John Crane, 7; Thomas Walters, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorks).—On Saturday, February 4th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the meeting of the above Association, the Bradford branch rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 13 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Angus, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; T. Pollitt, 4; J. Broadley, 5; J. H. Hardcastle (conductor), 6; B. F. Lamb, 7; F. London, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, February 4th, the Lindley society visited the above place, and rang at the parish church a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; A. Sykes (composer), 3; G. W. Schofield, 4; C. Craven, 5; B. Shaw, 6; C. W. Clegg (conductor), 7; F. Schofield, 8.

GLOUCESTER.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, February 4th, at the house of Mr. W. Arkell, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in 50 mins. B. Etheredge, 1-2; W. Brunsdon (conductor), 3-4; W. Arkell, 5-6.

SKIPTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, February 5th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 13 mins. W. Billows (conductor), 1; J. Boothman, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; W. Wellock, 4; S. Watson, 5; H. Horner, 6; W. Mason, 7; W. D. Hillary, 8. Composed by C. Price, of Eccleston.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, February 4th, at St. Gabriel's church, Pimlico, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Carter, 1; A. Edwards, 2; R. T. Woodley, 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; H. Ellis, 5; F. G. Newman, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. Cropley, 8. Messrs. Edwards and Lincoln hail from Writtle.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, January 26th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, 1; I. Hill, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; I. Hills, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; H. Toll, 6. Also several 120's of Grandsire Doubles, in which the following probationers took part: F. Hull, F. Smith, G. Cooper, J. West, W. Beetles. Tenor 7 cwt. in B. And on Sunday, February 5th, at St Paul's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull (first touch on eight bells), 1; F. Keech, 2; H. Toll (first touch in the method with a bob bell), 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. Pass, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Beetles, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 224 of Grandsire Triples. C. R. Howard (Biddenham), 1; W. Hall, 2; C. West (Biddenham), 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; H. Chapman, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; I. Hills, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

HARBORNE (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 4th, eight members of the above Society rang, at the parish church, a peal of 5088 changes of Grandsire Major, in 2 hrs. 53 mins., but owing to the fifth course of the sixth part being struck so very bad, the ringers decided not to claim it as a peal. C. Sparkes, 1; J. Jones, 2; W. Brook, 3; J. Carter (composer and conductor, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; C. Carmel, 6; A. Hackley, 7; J. T. Perry, 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, January 31st, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, two parts of Holt's 6-part peal of Union Triples, 1680 changes. R. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; G. Skeef, 7; E. Jarvis, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Monday, January 30th, at the parish church, two 720's of Bob Minor, in 55 mins. J. Prebble, 1; C. Potter, 2; J. Andrews, 3; C. Laker, 4; F. Slingsby, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor 18¼ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HEADINGTON (Oxon).—On Wednesday, January 18th, at the church of St. Andrew, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Jacob, 1; C. Tolley, 2; J. West, 3; J. Powell, 4; G. Tolley, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. West, 1; J. Adams, 2; C. Tolley, 3; J. Powell, 4; G. Tolley, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, January 22nd, at St. Peter's in the East, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; A. E. Hind, 3; A. Browning, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, Februrary 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, 280 of Grandsire Major. C. Barrett, 1; T. Lees, 2; G. Bourne, 3; T. Albutt, 4; W. James, 5; G. Hayward (conductor), 6; O. James, 7; W. Rea, 8. Also 593 of Grandsire Caters C. Barrett, 1; W. Rea, 2; T. Lees, 3; T. Albutt, 4; G. Hayward, 5; W. James, 6; E. Crump (conductor), 7; G. Bourn, 8; O. James, 9; J. Parry, 10. Also 210 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. P. H. Jackson, 1; T. Albutt, 2; T. Lees, 3; W. James, 4; G. Hayward (conductor), 5; G. Bourne, 6; O. James, 7; J. Parry, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, 518 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. P. H. Jackson, 1; T. Albutt, 2; T. Lees, 3; C. Barrett, 4; W. James, 5; W. Rea (conductor), 6; G. Bourne, 7; O. James, 8. Messrs. Barrett and Lees hail from Stourbridge; and the Rev. P. H. Jackson from Beaminster.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, the local company rang for Divine Service, 1050 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; D. Marment, 5; J Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also on Monday evening, February 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also a 350, with T. Ireland at the 3rd; conducted by J. Wager. This is the first quarter-peal by the local company.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, February 5th, at St. Nicholas church, a 360 of Bob Minor. E. Dewey, 1; G. Wickens, 2; A. Ellis, 3; B. King, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. *E. Dewey, 1; G. Wickens, 2; A. Ellis, 3; B. King, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. A. Jordan, 1; A. Ellis, 2; †E. Dewey, 3; B. King, 4; G. Wickens, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. And for evening service a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. E. Dewey, 1; G. Wickens, 2; A. Ellis, 3; B. King, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First in the method. †First touch on a bob bell. E. Dewey, hails from Reigate, Surrey. The rest are of the local company.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Monday, February 6th, on the occasion of the presentation to the Rev. *Canon Claughton of a* testimonial, and the opening of the memorial cloister to the late Earl Dudley, the last 700 of Holt's Original. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; H. Adams, 3; John Bennett, 4; T. Salter, 5; R. E. Grove, 6; John Crane (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. Also 392 Grandsire Triples, standing as before, conducted by R. E. Grove.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, February 5th, for evening service at the Cathedral, the following members of the Cathedral Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; E. J. Mitchell, 2; T. Grant, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; W. Battle, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

STROUD (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, at the parish church, by the local company, for Divine Service, 1542 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Trigg, 1; W. Nash, 2; C. Ring, 3; N. Ring, 4; G. Latham (conductor), 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, at the Abbey, for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Stedman Triples. L. Longney (first 504 in the method), 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; W. Page (first 504 in the method on tower bells), 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; Jno. Wathen, 8. L. Longney hails from Croome; and W. Page from Worcester.

TWYNING (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). P. Price, 1; S. Cleal, 2; W. Page, 3; L. Longney, 4; J. Green (first 720), 5; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 6.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 31st, at Christ Church, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 25 mins. L. Green, 1; W. Manning, 2; J. Nunn, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. The above is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 29th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. A. Kirby, 1; J. Nixon, 2; J. Jackman, 3; R. Kilby, 4; A. Pittam, 5; A. Tennant (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, in respect to the late Mr. Edmund Pryor, of Rollestons, Writtle. H. Brazier (Galleywood), 1; J. Daines (Widford), 2; F. Radley (Writtle) 3; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (Galleywood, conductor), 4; A. Tarbun (Widford), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. J. Piper (Widford), 7; C. Hawkes (Galleywood), 8. Also 350 in the same method. J. Everard (Writtle), 1; J. Dains, 2; R. Wood (Writtle), 3; A. Shuttleworth (Widford), 4; A. Tarbun, 5; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (conductor), 6; W. J. Piper, 7; C. J. Dennison (Writtle), 8. The father of the deceased, Mr. A. Pryor, of Hylands, is a large landowner in the three parishes of Galleywood, Widford, and Writtle.

Will Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham please send his address by post to W. G. Biggs, Bromham Mill, Bedford?

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

"BOB."

SIR,—Can you, or any reader of "The BELL NEWS," enlighten me as to the original meaning of the term *Bob?* According to Monk on Ringing (p. 34) and Shipway *(Campanalogia* Pt. ii., p. 2*)* it was introduced about the middle of the last century in place of the term *Extreme*; which (I quote from Shipway) "in the infancy of the science, when single changes were much practised, was used as the call word, to signify that no more changes could be produced without an alteration; but on the improvement of the art, when double and triple changes were rung, the term *bob* was preferred, as being more easily articulated." We may, I suppose, accept Shipway's authority for the *history* of the term; as to its *meaning*, the best English Dictionaries have little to tell us. One of the latest and most complete, for instance, Blackie's *Imperial Dictionary of the English Language*, can only say with regard to the technical use of the word in ringing: "In *bell-ringing*, a peal of courses or sets of changes, distinguished into a *bob*-major and a *bob*-minor"! Etymologists suggest that *bob* is an "onomatopoeic" (or imitative) word, expressing by its abrupt sound the idea of abrupt, jerky motion—as e.g. in its use for a "bob" of the head, the "bob" or swinging pendant at the end of a chain or earring, or as = a "shake" or "jog" in old English writers ("Pinches, nips, and bobs," Roger Ascham). They also connect it with a Gaelic Scotch word *bog* = to move, or agitate, and the Irish *bog* = a moving or quaking soil; but this is somewhat dubious. It seems, however, that the word does in some of its uses imply *sudden movement*, and might therefore fitly express the shift or change produced in the course or work of bells while ringing. But whether those who introduced it were conscious of any such meaning, or whether it was accidentally hit upon as a word easily spoken and heard, is another matter, upon which I invite information. The point is a small one; but I hope that there are some ringers who do not despise a mere question of words.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford. T. L. PAPILLON.

A PLAIN ANSWER.

SIR,—In answer to W. B.'s enquiry in respect of the 2520 Court Bob Triples rung at Spalding on Tuesday, January 17th, as W. B. has withheld his name, so shall I withhold any explanation whatever.

Halmer Cottage, Spalding. RICHARD MACKMAN.

"RESERVOIR" SURPRISE.

SIR,—In your issue of January 28th, I see that H. Meacham expresses surprise at his name appearing in print in connection with the peal of "Reservoir Surprise" at St. Chad's, Lichfield; though why he should do so I am at a loss to understand, as the report sent was accurate in every detail, and can be verified by at least a dozen ringers in this city. The name "Reservoir" was given the performance by the conductor (?) himself, from the fact that there is a large reservoir in close proximity to the church. He was so elated by the achievement, that he intimated at having it recorded on a tablet in the belfry. It can scarcely be no *joke* to see a performance, thought worthy of a tablet, recorded in a journal devoted to the art. In conclusion, I should recommend him, before attempting to deny a *bona fide* performance, and one in which he actually took part—to make himself better acquainted with that *truth* he so kindly advises others to study. F. JAS. COPE.

56 *George Lane, Lichfield.*

P.S.—I may add that the report sent for publication did not emanate from me.

CRITICISM.

SIR,—Referring to your "Notes by the Way" of last week, "Free Lance" still feels dissatisfied with the manner in which the Sussex Association scored their seventy peals last year. I am quite willing to give him credit for honourable and good feeling in making the remarks he has, but at the same time I think he ought to take a little more trouble and find out the complete facts of a case before he attempts to criticise it, or in nine times out of every ten the chances are (as in the present case), he will only publish a partial truth which is generally more misleading than a direct untruth. "Free Lance" asserts that a comparatively small number of the members of our Association took part in the twenty-nine peals rung in December last, and states that he is strongly opposed to any "stand still" policy of ringing the same peal of Major or the same mixture of Minor time after time—thus insinuating that in that way our peals were scored, whereas the fact is that the twenty-nine peals were rung by eight branches of the Association, forty-eight members taking part, ten of whom acted as conductors. The total consisted of one peal of Stedman Triples, two peals of Kent Treble Bob Major, eight of Grandsire Triples, and eighteen in seven different Minor methods, in which fourteen methods (five Treble Bob, two double, and seven plain) were used. The following will I think show whether any advancement was made, or if a "stand still" was adopted simply to secure a large total. The peal of Stedman Triples on December 24th, was the first in that method ever accomplished by a Sussex band. Prior to the end of March last, the Association had not scored a peal of Treble Bob Major. During December two were rung. Again in April, 1886, the first performance of the Steyning branch consisted of a 5040 in four plain Minor methods, while of the eighteen 5040's rung in December upon six bells, those by the above-mentioned branch included fourteen different methods. I should in conclusion, like to ask "Free Lance" how many times he considers the same peal can be rung by any band without running the awful risk of committing an act prejudicial to the advancement of change-ringing. GEO. F. ATTREE.

REFEREES.

SIR,—In reading yours of the 4th, I was surprised to find that once again our London friends have transgressed the un-written rule, viz.: "That it is essential and necessary to have a referee to vouch for, or as a guarantee for the true ringing of the peals published." I trust they will forgive my reminding them of this, not that I am doubting the truth of the ringing, but when a referee is present there is not a loop-hole left. In Birmingham we should never think of starting for a peal without a referee, for many is the time that we have had to declare it off, because those who promised to come and act for us never turned up, and we would not start without one. I hope this will be received in the same friendly spirit as it is meant.

Birmingham. T. RUSSAM.

TISBURY, WILTS.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST INHABITANT.—Mr. George Osmond, clock and watch maker, died at his residence, New House, Tisbury, on Friday, January 20th. The deceased gentleman was born July 15th, 1796, and for the whole of his life has lived in this town. He was very popular, of a most kindly and generous disposition, and was esteemed by all. He was of a very active and enterprising nature, and although a few years ago he had the misfortune to lose his eyesight, he was almost daily to be seen in the streets on his way to some friend's house. He took a deep interest in current events until within a short time of his death. He was extremely fond of bell-ringing, and was Treasurer to the Tisbury ringers from the year 1813 until 1878, when, being his 82nd birthday, he rang in a peal for the last time, together with his son and grandson. During his career, the old gentleman rang the death knell of three kings, one queen, two princes, one princess, and two dukes, viz.—King George III, George IV, William IV, the dowager Queen Adelaide, the Duke of Wellington, the Prince Consort, Princess Alice, Prince Louis Napoleon, and the Duke of Albany (ringing this last with the assistance of his grandson). The funeral took place on Wednesday, January 23rd. The remains were borne to the grave by members of the ringer's guild, followed by the relatives and friends of the deceased. The *cortege* was met at the church gate by the Revs. F. E. Hutchinson and W. J. Baker, and about twenty members of the choir in their surplices. After Psalm xc had been chanted, the lesson was read by the Rev. W. J. Baker, followed by the singing of hymn 274 (Ancient and Modern). The service at the grave was read by the Vicar. A wreath of choice flowers was sent by the Rev. L. L. and Mrs. Havard. As the procession left the grave, muffled touches were rung on the church bells. Deceased was in his ninety-second year. In December, 1886, Mr. Joseph Osmond, an elder brother of deceased, died in his ninety-fifth year.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, February 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting in the school at 6 p.m. J. T. STOTT, *District Sec.*

It is stated that the Bishops-Suffragan of Marlborough and Shrewsbury will be consecrated at St. Paul's on St. Matthias's Day.

The *Essex Chronicle* states that the Bishop of St. Albans was able to attend service at Danbury church on Sunday morning week. By his lordship's request, thanksgivings were offered in all the churches of the diocese for his recovery.

Mr. J. W. Dod, of the firm of Wait, James, and Co., has given £500 to the Bristol Bishopric Fund. The church is also indebted to Mr. Dod's munificence for the completion of the western towers of the cathedral.

TWO PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5184.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
6 4 3 5 2		–		–
3 6 4 5 2				–
6 5 3 2 4	–			
3 2 6 5 4			–	–
3 2 5 4 6	–			–
5 2 6 4 3		–		
5 2 4 3 6	–			–
4 5 2 3 6				–
3 4 2 5 6			–	

Twice repeated.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th each their extent, *i.e.* four course-ends in each part at home, and is thought to be the least number of changes in which these properties have been developed in a three-part peal in this method.

5376.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 5 2 3 6		–	–
2 4 5 3 6			–
5 2 4 3 6			–
6 3 4 2 5	–	–	–
5 4 3 2 6	–		–
6 2 3 4 5	–	–	–
3 6 2 4 5			–
2 3 6 4 5			–

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end. It is very similar to the one published by Mr. Washbrook in last week's issue, and both are variations of the late J. Cox's original peal.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5152.

By Y. GREEN, *College Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 3 6 5 2	–		
2 6 3 5 4	–		–
3 6 4 5 2	–		
2 4 6 5 3	–		–
6 2 4 5 3			–
4 6 2 5 3			–
3 2 6 5 4	–		–
6 5 3 2 4		–	–
3 6 5 2 4			–
5 3 6 2 4			–
2 5 6 3 4		–	
6 3 2 5 4		–	–
4 2 3 5 6	–		–
5 4 3 2 6		–	
2 5 3 4 6		–	
3 4 2 5 6		–	–
5 3 2 4 6		–	
2 4 5 3 6		–	–
3 2 5 4 6		–	
4 3 5 2 6		–	
5 2 4 3 6		–	–
4 5 2 3 6			–
2 3 4 5 6		–	–

This peal has the 5th and 6th each eleven course-ends home.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	5	6
5 3 6 2 4	–	–		–
3 6 5 2 4				–
6 5 3 2 4				–
2 3 5 6 4	–			–
3 5 2 6 4				–
6 2 5 3 4	–			–
2 5 6 3 4				–
5 6 2 3 4				–
3 2 6 5 4	–			–
2 6 3 5 4				–
6 3 2 5 4				–
3 4 2 5 6	–	–	–	
4 2 3 5 6				–
3 4 6 2 5			–	
6 4 5 2 3	–		–	
5 4 3 2 6	–		–	
4 3 5 2 6				–
2 5 3 4 6	–			–
5 3 2 4 6				–
3 2 5 4 6				–
2 4 5 3 6	–			
3 5 4 2 6	–			–
5 2 4 3 6	–			
3 2 4 5 6	S			

Repeated.

This peal has the 4th and 6th each twenty-two times in 6th's place.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 6 5 2	M
3 6 4 5 2	H
6 4 3 5 2	H
5 4 3 6 2	8th with 3.
4 3 5 6 2	H
2 4 3 6 5	7th with 2.
6 4 3 2 5	8th with 3.
3 4 5 2 6	M
4 5 3 2 6	H
5 3 4 2 6	H
4 2 3 5 6	8th with 2.

Five times repeated. Bob for single fifth course of the 2nd and 5th parts.

Contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times right ; 6th eighteen times wrong ; and the twenty-four 8-6's.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5120.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2
2 4 3 6 5	1		2
4 5 3 6 2	1		2
5 4 2 6 3	2		2
2 4 6 5 3		2	1
3 2 5 4 6	2	1	2
3 5 4 2 6		1	2
2 4 5 3 6		2	2
3 5 6 4 2	1	1	
2 3 4 5 6	2	1	2

This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6.

TWO PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5056.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
4 2 3 5 6				–
5 3 6 2 4		–	–	
6 2 5 3 4			–	–
3 6 5 2 4			–	
5 6 4 2 3	–			
5 6 2 3 4	–			–
2 5 6 3 4				–
6 3 2 5 4			–	–
2 6 3 5 4				–
4 3 6 5 2		–		–
6 4 3 5 2				–
2 5 3 4 6		–	–	–
3 4 2 5 6			–	–
6 2 4 5 3		–		–
3 5 4 2 6		–	–	–
4 3 5 2 6				–
5 4 3 2 6				–
3 2 5 4 6			–	–
5 3 2 4 6				–
2 4 5 3 6			–	–
5 2 4 3 6				–
4 5 2 3 6				–
2 3 4 5 6			–	–

This peal has the 6th its extent home, and contains the greatest number of changes with the 6th and tenors together than any peal yet produced.

5152.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 2 3 5 6			–
6 5 3 2 4	–	–	–
3 6 5 2 4			–
5 3 6 2 4			–
6 2 5 3 4		–	–
5 6 2 3 4			–
2 5 6 3 4			–
6 3 2 5 4		–	–
2 6 3 5 4			–
4 3 6 5 2	–		–
6 4 3 5 2			–
2 5 3 4 6	–	–	–
3 4 2 5 6		–	–
6 2 4 5 3	–		–
3 5 4 2 6	–	–	–
4 3 5 2 6			–
5 4 3 2 6			–
3 2 5 4 6		–	–
5 3 2 4 6			–
2 4 5 3 6		–	–
5 2 4 3 6			–
4 5 2 3 6			–
2 3 4 5 6		–	–

In this peal no calls are made with 7-8 before, consequently it contains the least number of changes in a peal of this method having all full courses. It has also the 6th its extent home.

It will be observed that the calling from the sixth course-end is the same as the 5056.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Love at home; Peace abroad."—*Old Toast.*

My query a fortnight ago respecting the President of the Midland Counties' Association has been answered in a manner which is as agreeable as it is unexpected. His latest addition to our literature is not only an able exposition worthy of the author, but will, I am sure, be welcomed by the Exercise.

* * * * *

In Saturday's issue you record no less than five peals rung on handbells. This is certainly unusual for one week, and looks healthy. One of the peals, I notice, was rung on Sunday, the 29th ult. This circumstance I confess I felt sorry to see. While disclaiming any sympathy with ultra-Sabbatarian notions, I do think it would have been much more satisfactory if the members of the St. James' Society had chosen some other day and place than in a public house on Sunday. It might be urged in defence that peals on tower bells are often rung on the Lord's Day, but I contend there is a wide difference between the two. There can be no analogy drawn between ringing a peal on the tower bells that all the parish may hear their pleasant tones on the principal ringing day of the week, and meeting in some room merely for the personal pleasure of those who take part in such ringing. It is to my mind no more justifiable than a game of cricket, chess, or even a boat race. We whose avocation is so essentially to proclaim the Lord's Day, should at least be scrupulous in our manner of observing it.

* * * * *

Is it not quite time to wind up that correspondence about the Waterloo Society? It is positively getting nauseous. Why don't the disputants settle such a personal affair privately, without so much "washing of dirty linen" in public? It was once said by some Frenchman (evidently a spiteful one) that one of John Bull's characteristics was "rushing into print;" that if he was obstructed in his way by a lion, the first thing he would do would be to send for a policeman, and then write about it to the newspapers. There may after all be some modicum of truth in this; but my friends, why not settle this matter amicably, then shake hands, and begin afresh? At any rate, do not keep on so persistently publishing your quarrel to the world, and thereby merely making the gulf wider between you.

* * * * *

Last week I had not the opportunity of considering Mr. Attree's analysis, and I now refer to it with pleasure, for the more one investigates it the more interesting it seems to become. One great feature of his return is the evidence it affords of the methods principally rung in the various counties, and I do not think it will be time wasted to investigate this point somewhat as there can be no doubt that the number of peals give a fair indication of the methods mostly practised in the respective localities.

* * * * *

The principal items in the Sussex total of 70, are 30 Grandsire, and 29 in Minor methods.

The College Youths record of 67 comprises—in double figures—31 Grandsire. and 18 Stedman, while eighteen peals are made up under four of the remaining "heads."

The Yorkshire Association which follows with 63 shews just over half of that number (32) to have been rung in Treble Bob methods, 12 in Grandsire, and 19 in Minor and other Major peals.

Next the Oxford Guild has included in its total of 51, 16 of Grandsire, and 23 of Stedman.

The Midland Counties' Association (which seems to present the most varied return), has but one item of double figures—10 of Stedman.

Of the Lancashire total of 34, 14 are of Treble Bob, and 13 of Grandsire.

Out of the St. James' Society's 30 peals, no less than 25 are of Grandsire.

The Norwich Association follows with 13 of Treble Bob, and 7 of Grandsire, out of a total of 28.

The Cumberlands with 19 Grandsire and 6 Treble Bob, out of their 27.

The Essex Association has rung 16 Grandsire out of their total of 24.

Gloucester and Bristol, 17 Grandsire out of 22.

The United Counties' Association shew a return of 18 Treble Bob peals out of a total of 20.

Kent has 15 Grandsire out of their 20.

The Stafford Society 13 Grandsire out of 15.

Sussex, 8 Grandsire, and four in Plain Methods out of 14.

Winchester 5 Grandsire, and 4 in Minor methods, out of 11.

Worcester 9 Grandsire out of their 10 peals recorded.

These are the only Societies which shew double figures for their totals, and I think they may be taken as fairly indicative of the methods which are principally in vogue.

* * * * *

The great preponderance of Grandsire and Treble Bob, counting as they do no less than 411 out of the gross total of 646, is evidence sufficient to show that for the past year at least they rank as by far the two most principal methods rung throughout the country.

* * * * *

One pleasing feature of Mr. Attree's return is the record of annual totals from 1881, which shew that during the past year more than four times the number of peals have been rung than in the year first-named. This fact will in itself demonstrate the "quickening spirit" which has animated the Exercise during the past seven years, and is moreover an encouraging sign for the future. There can be no doubt that much of this new life is due to the formation of the various County Associations and Guilds; and it should not fail to inspirit those who are so energetically working to perfect their organisations. If Mr. Attree's analysis succeeds in giving renewed energy to our brethren engaged in this good work, it will most certainly have been labour well spent.

FREE LANCE.

DEATH OF A BRADFORD RINGER.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Joshua B. Jennings, which took place on Monday, January 30th, at his residence, Princeville. The deceased, who was sixty-two years of age, had been an active ringer in Bradford over forty years. He joined the Yorkshire Association at its commencement, and had a seat on the Committee for several years. He was proverbially punctual and untiring in everything which he undertook; thoroughly good-hearted, and always to be depended upon, his loss will be severely felt. The interment took place on Thursday, January 2nd, at Undercliffe Cemetery, and was attended by the President, a Vice-President, the Secretary, Steward, and a goodly number of members of the Yorkshire Association and other friends. A course of Grandsire was rung at the grave-side at the conclusion of the service, and during the evening muffled touches were rung on the bells of the parish church, the latter being also half-muffled for the services on Sunday.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Faversham, on Monday, February 13th. Those who wish to attend should communicate with the Secretary, REV. R. K. HUGESSEN.

Wrinstad Court, Lenham.

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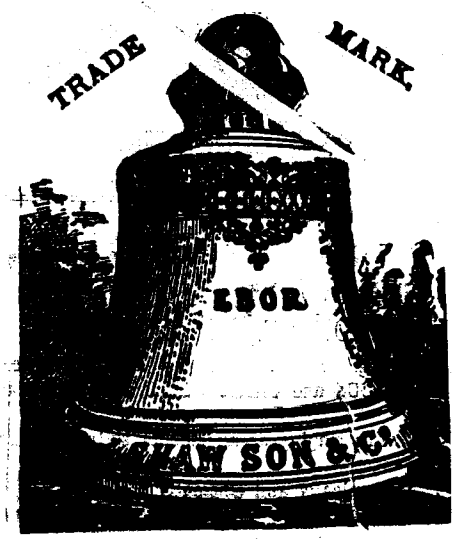

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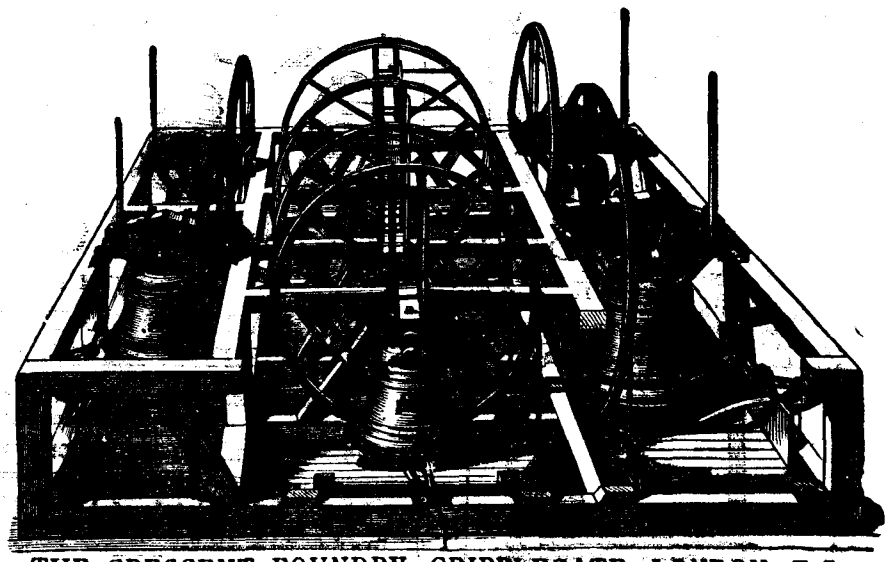

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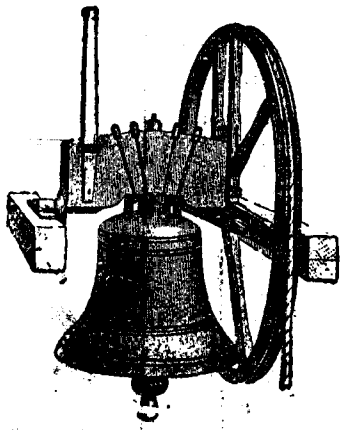

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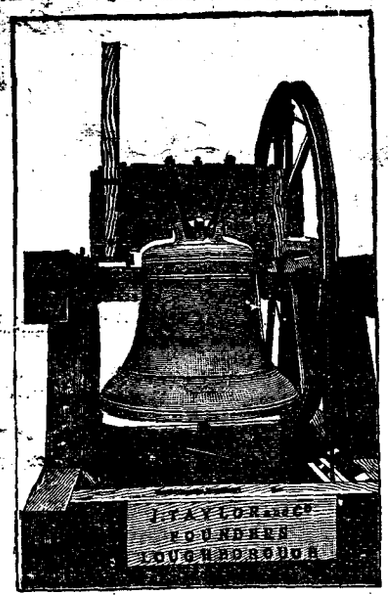

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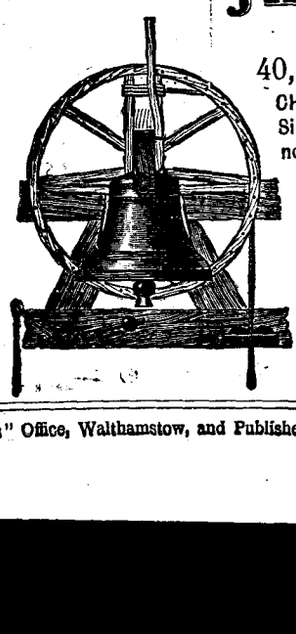

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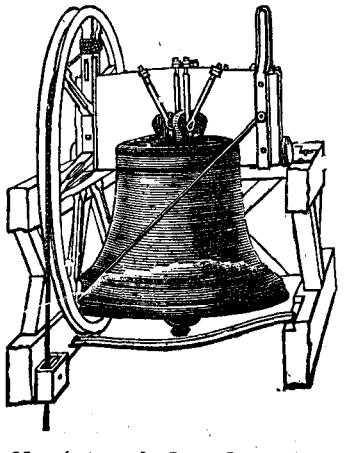

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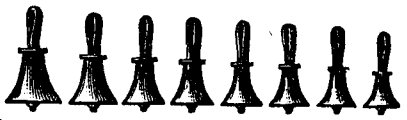

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A WEEK'S RINGING IN HERTS.—EIGHT PEALS IN SIX DAYS!

It will no doubt be interesting to many readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to read of a few details in connection with the series of performances achieved during the past week in the counties of Hertford and Middlesex, and which are recorded in the usual manner upon another page.

On Monday, February 6th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Wigram, there journeyed to Hertford for a week's ringing the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks., Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and Mr. J. W. Washbrook (Oxford). The Rev. G. F. Coleridge and Mr. Heywood were unfortunately unable to accept the Canon's invitation, so their places were filled by members of the Hertford band. A start was made on Monday evening at the church of All Saints, Hertford, for 5021 of Grandsire Caters, which was brought to a happy termination in 3 hrs. 18 mins. This was an exceedingly well-struck peal, and augured well for a successful week.

"9.30 a.m. at the rectory," was the order for Tuesday, where the Canon ordered a carriage to be in readiness to convey his three guests, with himself and Mr. H. Baker (Hertford), on a visit to Benington. The usual hospitality here greeted them, both from the squire and Mr. and Mrs. George Procter. Having placed three of his men at the disposal of the visitors, they lost no time in getting to work, and by 3 o'clock in the afternoon the Canon had rung his first peal of Double Norwich. The rest of the evening was spent in enjoying the squire's hospitality, and a good practice at Cambridge Surprise.

On Wednesday a visit was paid to Braughing, where the party was joined by Messrs. Newson and Chapman, well known ringers from Hampstead; with these gentlemen and two from Benington a band was made up for "Superlative," and an excellent peal in that deservedly-popular method was rung in 2hrs. 57mins. After a good repast, provided at "The Bell" inn, it was intended to make an attempt for a peal of Cambridge Surprise, but owing to circumstances over which the "itinerants" had no control, the notion was abandoned.

On Thursday, "9.30. G.N.R. for Hatfield" was next in order on the programme, and obedient to the call of duty, everybody concerned was punctual to time, as all good ringers should be. Hatfield being reached, the church was made for without delay. The bells were already up, awaiting the arrival of the band who were fated to ring that morning the first peal of Stedman Triples upon them. This was accomplished in 2hrs. 54mins., rather quick work, when a tenor of 27¾ cwt. is taken into consideration. The splendid go of these bells is due to the manner in which they have recently been rehung.

Soon after this peal was rung, the travellers were en route for St. Albans, where upon arrival, the cravings of the inner man were satisfactorily adjusted, and then a quiet rest was enjoyed until 5 o'clock, at which hour they were due at St. Peter's church. Being here joined by four of the local company, a 5025 of Stedman Caters was essayed, and after 3hrs. 12 mins.' very good ringing, success again crowned the exertions of the day. It may readily be imagined that by this time the company were extremely well pleased with themselves, yet the end of the programme had not been reached.

Friday—"8.40 G.E.R. for Hunsdon." Here, be it known to all men, that the local commissariat arrangements are somewhat defective, but with the usual forethought of the Rev. Canon Wigram, a good luncheon-basket was provided. Double Norwich was again attempted, and before 2 o'clock another peal in this method had been rung. Later in the afternoon Stedman Triples was under weigh, and two more peals thus became added to the week's performances. Very little the worse for the the day's ringing, they achieved, with their luncheon-basket, a four miles' march to the train, but sad to relate, the basket was empty.

Saturday—"G.N.R. 7.45 for Southgate." Here the party were most hospitably entertained by the worthy Vicar. A peal of Stedman Triples was successfully brought round on these beautiful bells, forming a brilliant finish to a brilliant week's ringing, the results being very gratifying to all concerned. The party then separated, proceeding to their several destinations, well pleased with ringing eight peals in six days, brought about by the energetic exertions of the Rev. Canon Wigram. H. B.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—REOPENING OF BELLS AT STOCKBRIDGE, HANTS.

The tower and spire of the parish church having been completed last year as a memorial of the Queen's Jubilee, it was determined to crown the work by rehanging the bells, four in number, which had been brought from the old church now pulled down. The old bells, cast by Knight of Reading, bear the date 1691. One of these was cracked. The ring has now been enlarged to six, and three new bells have been cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the whole mounted on a new frame. The new bells harmonise admirably with the old ones, and the way in which the Whitechapel firm have fulfilled their contract has already won golden opinions. The dedication service was held at 4 o'clock, and the church was crowded, the inhabitants taking great interest in the proceedings, closing their shops and decorating their houses with flags. Suitable psalms and lessons were chosen for the service. Prayers were said by the Rector, the Rev. R. J. Chandler; the first lesson, 10th chapter of Numbers, was read by the Rev. H. A. Spyers, and the second, 13th chapter of Romans, by the Rev. Barrington Gore-Browne. The Archdeacon of Winchester said the dedicatory prayers, and a short touch was rung by the ringers before the sermon. The Archdeacon preached the sermon, taking his text from Numbers x., 1 and 2. In the course of his sermon he alluded to the interest taken in the welfare of the Church, which led them to erect the spire and bells. And the spire, which pointed heavenward, should remind them to set their affection on things above. He dwelt on the various occasions on which the bells would be used. For the calling of assemblies and for the marking of both joyful and sorrowful ceremonies, such as marriages and funerals, pointing out the reasons why the ringing of the bells was appropriate to all such occasions. He exhorted them to be frequent in their attendance at the house of God, and hoped that when their death-knell should sound they would be ready to meet the summons. After the service there was a public tea in the Town Hall, and this was so largely attended that the resources of the room were taxed to the utmost to provide accommodation. The Archdeacon came in and spoke a few kindly words to the assembled guests. An entertainment was given at 7 o'clock at the Town Hall, consisting of music and recitations. During the course of the evening an address was given by the Rev. H. A. Spyers, on bells and bell-ringing, explaining the various systems of ringing, and showing the superiority of half-pull ringing to the ringing by set changes. He hoped Stockbridge would set a good example to the neighbourhood by setting to work to master the scientific style of ringing, and that the neighbouring parishes of of Broughton, Andover, Whitchurch, Amport, Upper Wallop, and Thruxton would soon follow suit. To explain what he meant by this kind of ringing, he, with the help of other members of the Diocesan Guild, rang on the handbells a plain course of Grandsire Triples, which pleased the company immensely, and the audience rapturously applauded. During day the following ringing was done by members from Bournemouth, Twyford, Fareham and Deane: a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor by J. Staples, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewett, 3; F. Hill, 4. G. Gratham, 5; J. Whiting (conductor), 6. And another in the same method by Rev. H. A. Spyers, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewett, 3; G. Grafham, 4: J. Whiting, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. G. Grafham, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewett, 3; F. Hill, 4; J. Whiting, 5; A. Grist, 6. Also 360 of Grandsire Minor. G. Grafham, 1; G. Brown, 2: F. Hill, 3; W. West, 4; J. Whiting, 5; F. Hewlett (conductor), 6. There were also several 120's of Grandsire Doubles brought round during the day.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above society will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at the "York Hotel," York Road, S.E. Tickets three shillings each. Members and friends requiring tickets, will please forward their names to the Secretary on or before Monday, February 20th. Dinner at 7 p.m sharp.

G. WILD, *Hon. Sec*

8, *Francis Street, Waterloo Road, S.E.*

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.

A special dedication service was held on Monday, February 13th, in the parish church, Lindfield, there being a large congregation present. The service commenced with the hymn, "The Church's one Foundation," as a processional, followed by the evening prayer, with special psalms and lessons. The Vicar, the Rev. E. F. d'Auvergne, read the service, the Rev. J. Bowden, Rector of Ardingly, read the lessons, and the sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Mount, who took for his text the 29th verse of the 16th chapter of the First Book of Chronicles: "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering and come before Him; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The Archdeacon commenced his discourse by referring to the object of their gathering together, namely, to solemnly dedicate the noble ring of bells that had been added to the church, together with the beautiful restoration that had been effected. He then applied his text to the occasion, dividing his remarks into three heads. The first thing to give the honour due unto God's Name, as His worship was not made enough of, and praise should form no insignificant part of worship. The second was worship in the beauty of holiness, that the church should be beautiful, and God's house the richest and costliest of all. Our churches throughout the country should be restored and beautified as Lindfield Church had been. There were some who objected to such work, but he rejoiced that the costly peal of bells and the church restoration shewed that such a spirit did not animate that parish. In addition to the beauty of the fabric, the preacher urged the inward or true beauty of holiness as shewn in the holy lives of the worshippers and the worship carried on within those walls. The concluding portion of the discourse was an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Church Restoration Fund, of which about £70 still remains to be raised. The Ven. Archdeacon then gave the special prayers for the bells, and pronounced the blessing.

The service was choral, two special hymns being sung, "Now at lenghth our bells are mounted" and "Our day of praise is done." Mis Anscome presided at the organ during the service, Mr. T. Creaser (blind organist) playing "Sound the loud timbrel" as a voluntary.

By the invitation of the Vicar, the following members of the Sussex County Association were present, and before the service rang a 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Gasson, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; F. Rice, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Jay, 8. Also immediately after the service Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung (for particulars see peal column). During the evening the above ringers, together with the newly-elected Lindfield branch of the Association, were entertained at the Bent Hotel to supper, the Vicar occupying the chair, and Mr. Churchwarden Masters in the vice-chair.

The toast of the evening was given by the Vicar, who proposed the success and prosperity of the County Association of Bellringers. The Vicar said the local ringers had now become members of the Association, and he hoped that increased interest would be taken in bellringing.

Mr. G. F. ATTREE responded on behalf of the Association, making some encouraging remarks to the young Society, bidding them not to be discouraged by the drudgery necessary to master change-ringing.

The bells were previous to last year a heavy peal of five dating from 1599 to 1682. The old tenor (about 25 cwt.) has been retained for the clock to strike upon. Three new trebles and a new tenor, together with the old treble, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, complete one of the finest peals of eight in the county. The new tenor was given by Mr. Sturdy, of Paxhill, while Mr. C. E. Kemp, of Lindfield, is the donor of the other three bells. The whole of the work has been executed by Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER DISTRICT.

A RINGING MEETING in connection with the above will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at St. Mark's, Worsley (eight bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting in the schoolroom at 7.30 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited.

JOHN E. POLLITT, *Local Sec.*

SUTTON-ON-THE-HILL, DERBYSHIRE.—OPENING OF A RING OF SIX BELLS.

IN the tower of this church there were formerly three old bells. The treble became cracked, and was recast in 1863 by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. By the munificent liberality of Miss Dakin and the Rev. R. G. Buckston, the peal is now augmented by the addition of two new trebles and a tenor, completing a musical ring of six bells. The work has been most satisfactorily executed by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, who have hung the bells in their improved iron frames, and the "go" of them is all that can be desired. It is surprising that such a heavy peal could be so well hung in so small a tower.

The new bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—"The gift of R. G. Buckston, Vicar, 1887."

2nd.—"To the Glory of God, and in memory of Mary Dakin, who died March 29th, 1882. This bell was given by her sister, Francis Dakin, 1887."

Tenor.—"To the Glory of God, and in memory of Hannah Dakin, who died March 29th, 1887. This bell was given by her sister, Francis Dakin, 1887."

The diameter of the tenor bell is 3 feet 4½ inches; it weighs 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 18 lbs., in the key of G. At the kind invitation of the Vicar, several members of the Loughborough bellfoundry branch of the Midland Counties' Association, visited Sutton-on-the-Hill on Saturday, February 4th, to open the bells. After a pleasant drive of about three miles from Tutbury station, all the party were hospitably entertained at the vicarage. They then adjourned to the tower where several 720's of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor, and some 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

The above Society beg to announce their intention of holding the usual public dinner on Tuesday, February 28th, 1888, at "The Woolpack" Hotel, Birmingham, directly opposite the Church. Ringers who intend to be present are invited to signify the same to the undersigned not later than Friday, February 24th. Dinner on the table at 6 p.m. Tickets three shillings each. A peal of Stedman Cinques will be attempted at noon. Ringers from a distance wishing to take part in the same, are asked to forward their names not later than Tuesday, February 21st, as the band will be selected on that evening.

Wheeley's Road, Birmingham. A. THOMAS, *Hon. Sec.*

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Faversham on Monday, February 13th, and was attended by thirty members. A resolution was passed by the Committee that threepence per man should be paid by the ringers of any peal sent up to be entered in the society's peal-book, and that the Secretary shall forward in return a certificate, in a form hereafter to be approved by the Committee.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Lawrence's, Chorley, on Saturday, February 18th. The bells will be open for ringing from two o'clock. Business meeting at five o'clock in the school-room.

57 *Chorley Road, Blackrod.* JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

Shortly before midnight on Saturday, 3rd inst., a sad fatality occurred at Brighton. A man named Joseph Trill, who had for several years been a bellringer and stoker of St. Matthew's, Kemp Town, left home with a younger brother, named Alfred, a cripple, to attend to the furnaces of the church. As they were away longer than usual, the wife of Joseph and another brother went to the church. On entering the furnace crypt they were almost overcome by the fumes. The cripple brother was found lying close to the entrance. He was dragged out in an insensible condition, and was taken to the hospital in a critical state. An alarm was then raised, and the man Joseph was subsequently found lying on his back in the crypt. When brought out he was dead.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Make friends of all—enemies of none."

I have no desire to continue the "contention" (if I may so term it) with Mr. Attree; not through any motive of disrespect towards that gentleman, but because as I think that as both sides of the question have been given, to proceed further would serve no useful purpose, and would moreover to a great extent necessitate travelling over the old ground. Also, because his letter of last Saturday so well bears out my previous remarks. He states that 48 members (surely a "comparatively small number" out of their total), took part in the 29 peals in question. Of the methods rung, 8 were of Grandsire Triples (in which Holt's ten-part was such a conspicuous figure); while 18 were Minor peals, composed of but 14 methods in all. These are his own returns, and they so fully corroborate my statements, that I feel constrained to thank him for so well demonstrating the correctness of my criticisms. As to the "rush" in the last month of the year, which I commented upon, he seems to have ignored it; I therefore content myself with leaving this matter to the Exercise to judge whether I have not been fully justified in my remarks.

* * * * *

There is one point, however, in Mr. Attree's letter which I would here refer to, and in which I have no doubt we shall both cordially agree, namely, the progress made by the Steyning men. Their record is undoubtedly one of progression in the art, for from four plain methods in April, 1886, to 14 different ones in December, 1887, is very creditable to them. He would be a jaundiced mortal indeed who would not give such a company the commendation which they fully deserve. I confidently hope their progress in the future will be in accordance with their past achievements.

* * * * *

Your pages of last week show the very satisfactory total of 20 peals. One of them, however, appears to me to come very near if not all out, being the quickest on record. I refer to a peal of 5200 Kent Treble Bob Royal stated to have been accomplished in 3 hrs. and 12 mins., at Mirfield, Yorks, with a tenor of 30 cwt. That means over 27 changes per minute, which with a peal of ten of that weight, seems almost incredible. Is there not a mistake somewhere?

* * * * *

Our Birmingham friends have set a good example by refusing to count a peal rung, through bad striking in one portion of it. I think many others might take a lesson from this action.

* * * * *

Your remarks on the York anniversary raise a point to which my attention has been drawn for some time, and had you been acquainted with some of my own personal experiences you could not have "hit the mark" more effectively. My last experience was on a Saturday afternoon recently when I paid a visit to a neighbouring village to hear a peal which was about to be attempted. In the course of conversation with the local company, I found them well conversant with current news and topics as reported in "THE BELL NEWS," and were also loud in their complaints because a date touch which had been rung on the previous Thursday evening had not appeared in that week's issue; being told in reply to my explanations about it being too late for insertion that the Editor "had all day on Friday to put it in, as they did not get the paper until Saturday." I of course could not resist a smile at this display of ignorance; but imagine my surprise when, in answer to my question as to the number of copies they received weekly, I was informed that they "got one copy for the company!" Ten men joint subscribers for one company! You cannot wonder if this answer certainly did tend to "disturb the equilibrium of my temper," I only fear however that this state of things is too often the case, discreditable though it be. If our organ deserves to exist, it deserves to be supported by those for whose benefit it so exists, and in no niggardly manner either.

* * * * *

How much different is this, I thought, to my own company at home, where every member looks for his paper being brought by the steeple-keeper on the Sunday morning as regularly as he looks for his ring for morning service. And other gentlemen I know, also, who though not ringers themselves, are regular subscribers, because they are desirous of knowing week by week what is going on in the ringing world, and which information they know they can only obtain through the columns of this paper.

* * * * *

Were it not for the fear that I might be suspected of being on a "canvassing expedition," I would say more on this subject! but here I leave it, feeling confident that with the growth of intelligence in our ranks these "joint subscribers" will vanish, and each one will be satisfied with no less than a weekly copy of his own.

* * * * *

The Rev. T. L. Papillon raises a very interesting question anent the origin and meaning of the term "Bob." The vicar of Writtle modestly thinks the question a small one; but here I differ with him. The word is as common as change-ringing itself, and yet how many of us know its origin or understand its meaning? Johnson defines it "to dodge. to cheat, to dangle;" and an Encyclopædia which I referred to, among a string of other definitions, gives "a shake or jog; a mode of ringing." I am sorry to say that my education in the direction of Etymology has been sadly neglected; so I hope some of our more learned friends will be able to give us less favoured ones information on the point.

* * * * *

This day three weeks (Saturday, March 10th), to the "Silver wedding day" of the Prince and Princess of Wales. I think it would be a graceful act of loyalty on our part if we "honoured" that day with a peal where practicable; and where not, at any rate with a good ring of some sort.

* * * * *

One more point I would not omit. The newest and last addition to our English Bishoprics is now practically completed by the appointment of the Right Rev. Dr. Walsham How as first Bishop of Wakefield. Those zealous Churchmen and Churchwomen who have for many years back been working assiduously for this object can now view the successful issue of their labours. My principal object in mentioning this is to express the hope that our Yorkshire friends—particularly those resident in the new diocese—will not fail to take a prominent part in the welcome given to the Bishop, when he enters upon, and takes charge of the new See.

FREE LANCE.

ST. EDMUND'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

A very pleasant gathering of the members and friends of the above society took place at the Victoria Hall on Monday night, January 30th, when a company, numbering thirty-three, partook of a capital dinner, provided by Mr. W. Norton. The President of the society (the Rev. W. W. Secretan), presided, and there were also present the Rev. H. W. McGrath, Messrs. Tidball, Sidney Herbert, W. C. Marsh, W. Robins, James Rae, H. Swift, W. Tuckett, W. H. Webber, W. Templeman, H. Brewer, H. W. Crane, W. G. Goss, W. Richardson, J. Shobrook, T. R. Fry, J. C. Bealey, E. Pitt, T. Roberts, S. Meadows, T. Hoyle, T. Townsend, A. W. Searle, Coombes, and G. Allen. After the tables had been cleared, the loyal toasts were duly honoured.

Mr. S. HERBERT proposed "The Bishop and Clergy," and in doing so alluded to the assistance which the clergy of the parish were always ready to extend to them. He also alluded to the fact that the Rev. H. W. McGrath had in time past been an active change-ringer, and expressed a hope that the members would have the pleasure of his company in the next peal.

The CHAIRMAN suitably replied, and intimated that he should be always happy to do anything in his power to promote the welfare of the society.

Mr. TIDBALL gave the toast of "The Churchwardens," which was acknowledged in a suitable manner by Mr. Tuckett.

Mr. BREWER proposed the toast of "Success to the St. Edmund's Society of Ringers," which was most cordially received.

Mr. W. C. MARSH (Hon. Sec)., responded in a neat speech. He observed that he could only tell them that the success which had attended their efforts was far more than they expected during the short time the Society had been started. He had no idea that when he was asked seven months since to start the Society, that it would have made such rapid progress. They now had between thirty and forty members, and instead of having to be content with ringing Grandsire Doubles, they had been able to ring Grandsire Triples, and had done touches of 540 and 700 changes, two quarter-peals, one touch of 1400 another of 1500, a date touch (1888 changes), and then to crown everything, they had that day successfully rung a peal of 5040 changes—this within the first seven months of the Society's existence. He only hoped that at the expiration of the next seven months, they would be able to report still further progress, and that they would be able to ring Stedman Doubles if not Stedman Triples.

Mr. W. H. WEBBER gave the toast of "Our Officers," which was suitably responded to by Mr. H. Swift (Hon. Treasurer).

Mr. MARSH gave the toast of "Our Conductor" (Mr. E. Pitt), and paid a very high compliment to Mr. Pitt's ability as a conductor, and particularly alluded to the difficulties connected with conducting a peal or a long touch.

Mr. PITT responded, and assured those present that he should be always happy to do anything that he could do for the society.

The concluding toast was "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. CRANE, and responded to by Mr. JAMES ROE.

The musical part of the programme was as follows: Song—"To-morrow will be Friday" Mr. H. Swift; Duet—"The Minute Gun at Sea," Messrs. Marsh and Crane; Hnndbell Selection—"Home, Sweet Home," Messrs. Goss, Marsh, Pitt, and Webber; Song—"The Blacksmith's Son," Mr. Templeman; Duet—"All's well," Messrs. Webber and Templeman; Song—"True till Death," Mr. Rose. Messrs. Crane and Tidball acted as accompanists.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

The 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year on Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of Stedman Caters by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the Annual Dinner will take place at "The Horse Shoes." All ringing friends who wish to attend will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

A CORRECTION.—In the account of the peal rung at St. Edmund's church, Exeter, published last week, tenor should be 14 cwt., not 18 cwt. as stated.

THE CHRIST CHURCH GUILD, EASTBOURNE.

A dinner in connection with the above Guild took place at Powell's dining rooms, Seaside Road, on Thursday evening, February 9th, when a company of between twenty and thirty sat down, under the presidency of the Rev. R. Allen, to a capital repast, which was served in good style. Mr. Teeling took the vice-chair, and the Rev. O. L. Tudor was amongst the company. During the evening various toasts were drunk, including "Success to the Guild" and "The Health of the Vicar," who in reply made some interesting remarks with regard to bell-ringing generally. He also reminded the ringers that they were really the mouthpiece of the church in summoning people to service, and he hoped they would not forget the religious significance of their office in their enthusiastic pursuit of an interesting scientific exercise. "The Health of the Captain (Mr. T. Smith)," was also heartily drunk. The whole of the speeches had special reference to ringing as a science, and more particularly to its modern development and its now acknowledged importance in church work. There are at present only six bells at Christ Church, and a hope was expressed that before long another two would be added, so as to make a complete peal. A desire also found utterance that the social gathering of that evening might be the precursor of many others. The proceedings were pleasantly interspersed with songs, Mr. C. Williams (organist of Christ Church), kindly officiating as accompanist.

RE-OPENING OF ST. DAVID'S BELLS, EXETER.

After a lapse of about ten months, during which time the bells have been rehung, and a new oak cage for eight placed in position, the peal of six bells in the tower of St. David's church were re-opened for ringing purposes on Saturday afternoon, February 4th. Twelve months since it was found that the bells were in a very unsafe condition for ringing purposes, and a project was shortly afterwards started for re-hanging them in a new cage, and at the same time increasing the peal to one of eight bells. Unfortunately, however, the necessary funds were not readily forthcoming, and it was eventually determined to only rehang the six bells in a new cage, with room for the two new bells when sufficient funds are obtained. The task of putting in a cage for eight in the tower, which is round, although a difficult one, has been successfully accomplished. On Saturday a large number of visitors visited St. David's by invitation to try the bells, and much satisfaction was expressed with the manner in which they go. Besides the members of St. David's society, there were representatives present from St. Sidwell's, St. Edmund's, St. John's, St. Thomas, St. Petrock's, St. Austell, and Stoke Canon bands, and some capital Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, besides call changes, were rung.

BIRTHDAY FESTIVITY.

ON Saturday afternoon, February 11th, the bells of St. Paul's church, Walkden, Lancashire, were rung to celebrate the fortieth birthday of Mr. W. Denner, the oldest member of the local company. After having a good ring of nothing worthy of comment, save two 360's of Grandsire Minor, the ringers were courteously invited to the house of Mr. Denner, where a good substantial repast was awaiting them, that had most generously been provided by the good host and hostess. A very pleasant evening was afterwards spent in songs, recitations, and hand-bell ringing. At the close of the evening, Mr. Williamson (one of the local company), proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Denner for their kindness, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. DENNER in reply, said he was only too glad to have the opportunity of helping to make them happy. The company broke up about eleven o'clock.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Mary's, Putney, by kind permission, on Monday, February 20th. The tower will be open from 5 o'clock. Ringers arriving early are requested to apply for the keys to Mr. E. Miller, the verger, 46 High Street. There will be no ringing at Fulham on the above date.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

1888.

By Jno. T. Hollis, *Wakefield.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
2 1 3 5 4 7 6 9 8
2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 9
3 2 4 1 6 5 8 7 9
3 4 2 6 1 8 5 9 7
4 3 6 2 8 1 9 5 7
4 6 3 8 2 9 1 7 5
6 4 8 3 9 2 7 1 5
6 8 4 9 3 7 2 1 5
8 6 9 4 7 3 1 2 5
8 9 6 7 4 1 3 5 2
9 8 7 6 1 4 5 3 2
9 7 8 1 6 5 4 2 3
7 9 1 8 5 6 2 4 3
7 1 9 5 8 2 6 3 4
1 7 5 9 2 8 3 6 4
1 5 7 2 9 3 8 4 6

For first lead.

3 4 5 2 6 7 8 9 4
7 2 3 9 4 8 5 6 1
S 6 5 7 4 8 3 9 2 3
3 4 6 2 5 9 7 8 1
4 6 3 2 5 9 7 8 6
6 3 4 2 5 9 7 8 6

8 9 6 7 2 5 3 4 2
5 7 8 4 9 3 6 2 1
2 3 5 6 4 9 7 8 2
3 5 2 6 4 9 7 8 6
5 2 3 6 4 9 7 8 6

8 9 5 7 6 4 2 3 2
4 7 8 3 9 2 5 6 1
6 2 4 5 3 9 7 8 2
2 4 6 5 3 9 7 8 6
4 6 2 5 3 9 7 8 6

8 9 4 7 5 3 6 2 2
3 7 8 2 9 6 4 5 1
5 6 3 4 2 9 7 8 2
6 3 5 4 2 9 7 8 6
3 5 6 4 2 9 7 8 6

8 9 3 7 4 2 5 6 2
2 7 8 6 9 5 3 4 1
4 5 2 3 6 9 7 8 2

2 6 4 5 7 3 8 9 5

9 3 2 8 5 7 6 4 2
7 8 9 4 3 6 2 5 1
6 4 7 5 8 2 9 3 1

9 3 6 8 2 7 5 4 2
7 8 9 4 3 5 6 2 1
5 4 7 2 8 6 9 3 1

8 9 5 7 3 4 6 2 4
2 4 8 6 7 3 9 5 2

9 5 2 7 3 8 6 4 3
4 8 9 6 7 3 5 2 2
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 2

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By David G. Wightman, *Cretingham, Suffolk.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 3 5 6 4		–		1
2 3 6 4 5		–		1
3 4 2 5 6		–		
4 5 3 6 2	2		2	
4 5 6 2 3		–		1
4 5 2 3 6		–		1
2 3 4 5 6			1	1

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By W. T. Pates, *Cheltenham.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	5	6
3 5 4 2 6	–		
5 2 4 3 6	–		
3 4 2 5 6	–		1
4 5 2 3 6	–		
5 3 2 4 6	–		
4 2 3 5 6	–		1
3 2 6 5 4	–	–	
5 6 2 3 4	–		–
6 2 5 3 4			–
3 5 2 6 4	–		–
5 2 3 6 4			–
3 2 4 6 5	–	–	
6 4 2 3 5	–		
4 3 2 6 5	–		
2 3 5 6 4	–	–	
6 5 3 2 4	–		–
5 3 6 2 4			–
6 3 4 2 5	–	–	
2 4 3 6 5	–		–
3 2 5 4 6		–	
2 4 5 3 6	–		
4 3 5 2 6	–		
3 5 2 4 6	–		S
5 4 2 3 6	–		
3 2 4 5 6	–		–

Repeated.

The 6th twelve times wrong and twenty-four times right. The extent without 2nd and 3rd being in 6th's place at a course-end.

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

1888.

By A. B. Carpenter, *Croydon.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	3	8
5 3 4 1 2*		
1 3 2 5 4	–	–
5 3 2 4 1		–
4 3 2 1 5		–
1 3 5 4 2	–	–
4 3 5 2 1		–
2 3 5 1 4		–
1 3 4 2 5	–	–
2 3 4 5 1		–
5 3 4 2 1	S	–
2 3 4 1 5		–
1 3 4 5 2		–
5 3 2 1 4	–	–
1 3 2 4 5		–
4 3 5 1 2	–	–
1 3 5 2 4		–
2 3 5 4 1		–
4 3 1 2 5	–	–
2 3 1 5 4		–
5 3 1 4 2		–
4 3 1 5 2	S	–
5 3 1 2 4		–
2 3 1 4 5		–

*Start with a quick six. Bobs at 4 7 8 produce 3 1 5 6 4 7 2, which is the first six from 5 3 4 1 2 6 7.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By John R. Pritchard, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
4 2 6 3 5	–	–	
6 3 4 2 5	–		–
4 6 3 2 5			–
3 4 6 2 5			–
6 2 3 4 5	–		–
3 6 2 4 5			–
2 3 6 4 5			–
6 2 5 3 4	–	–	
5 3 6 2 4	–		–
6 5 3 2 4			–
3 6 5 2 4			–
5 2 3 6 4	–		–
3 5 2 6 4			–
2 3 5 6 4			–
4 5 2 3 6	–	–	–
2 4 5 3 6			–
5 2 4 3 6			–
4 3 5 2 6	–		–
5 4 3 2 6			–
3 5 4 2 6			–
4 2 3 5 6	–		–
3 4 2 5 6			–
3 2 4 5 6			S

Repeated.

4th and 5th each each fourteen times in 6ths place, and the 6th eighteen times at home.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

5184.

By Charles Price, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	W
6 3 2 5 4	–	–
3 5 6 4 2	–	
5 4 3 2 6	–	
4 2 5 6 3	–	
2 6 4 3 5	–	
5 6 2 3 4	–	–
6 3 5 4 2	–	
3 4 6 2 5	–	
4 2 3 5 6	–	

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By John R. Pritchard, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
6 4 2 3 5	–	–	–
3 6 2 4 5	–		
2 4 3 6 5	–		–
5 3 2 4 6	–	–	–
4 5 2 3 6	–		
3 4 2 5 6	–		
2 5 3 4 6	–		–
4 2 3 5 6	–		
5 4 3 2 6	–		
3 2 5 4 6	–		–
4 3 5 2 6	–		
5 2 4 3 6	–		–
3 5 4 2 6	–		
2 4 3 5 6	–		S

Repeated.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.
" 6 " .. .. 3s. 3d.
" 3 " .. .. 1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1888.

THE report of "six days' ringing" just accomplished under the auspices of three clergymen, ought to be the means of making plain to other members of "the cloth" that the science of change-ringing is worth enquiring about with an ultimate view to its practice. The doings of the three gentlemen in question, with their friends, beyond all doubt were much enjoyed by them, while the performances they successfully effected deserve, under all the circumstances, great credit. Some of them would seem to have been attained by bands which were got together in an haphazard manner, and this fact again tells considerably in their favour.

But while raining these compliments upon them, the question seems to force itself upon our notice—"To what good result does such energy tend, so far as the extension of half-pull ringing is concerned?" That such a scientific display will create some stir in certain quarters we shall be among the last to deny. But whether such perambulations as this would do more good if they had for their primary object the redemption or resuscitation of those belfries where good ringing is at present slighted, is a matter of opinion.

Yet it is not kind to seemingly underrate in the slightest degree, such a tour as this one. Nor do we in the least. Clergymen are but men after all—and these are good men—they deserve a holiday as well as any one else. Often they have arduous duties of various kinds to perform which have to be done unseen, without the faintest show of acknowledment from anyone. We trust they and their friends have found their little trip beneficial in every way.

The Metropolis.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, February 13, 1888, *in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE H. HOGG	..*Treble.*	WILLIAM WATCHORN	5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL	2.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS	6.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN	7.
EDWARD WELLS	4.	JOSEPH LAWS	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

This is the quickest peal on the bells.

BARKING, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,*

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

ROBERT SEWELL	..*Treble.*	HENRY SPRINGALL	5.
JOHN BONNEY	2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE	6.
WILLIAM CECIL	3.	YORK GREEN	7.
SAMUEL HAYES	4.	JOHN M. HAYES	..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by YORK GREEN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a one-part peal, it has the 2nd in 2nd's place at twelve course-ends and never in 6th's place at a course-end, and only one in 5th's; the sixth is eighteen times wrong, and the extent right, and is the only peal that has been composed on this plan containing these qualities. The figures appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" No. 274, Vol. 6., June 25th, 1887.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, *in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM WAKLEY	..*Treble.*	THOMAS HOLMES	5.
JOHN AUSTIN	2.	*GEORGE ROBINSON	6.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE	3.	HARRY WAKLEY	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	ARTHUR WAKLEY	..*Tenor.*

Couducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

[*First peal of Stedman on an inside bell.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

RICHARD WILLIAMS	..*Treble.*	JOHN BROWN	6.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	2.	JOHH R. PRITCHARD	7.
ROBERT WILLIAMS	3.	HENRY COLEY	8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS	4.	THOMAS HAMMOND	9.
WILLIAM BOOTH	5.	WILLIAM BROOKS	..*Tenor.*

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS and Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

The above was rung as a compliment to Richard Williams, who completed his 77th year, on Frlday, February 10th, and is the oldest ringer now living in Liverpool. His brother strings wishing him many happy returns of the day. It is worth recording that he took part in a peal of Grandsire Caters on the same bells, on February 9th, 1838, exactly 50 years ago.

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM LEADER	..*Treble.*	REUBEN FLAXMAN	5.
ALFRED ANDREWS	2,	WILLIAM WILDER	6.
THOS. W. UDELL	3.	ALFRED C. FUSSELL	7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	4.	JOSEPH JONES	..*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by A. C. FUSSELL.

Rang in honour of the birthday of Frederick Charsley, Esq., the donor of the treble bells. The above is the first peal of Bob Triples rang by members of the Guild, and is believed to be the first in the county. It is also the first peal of Bob Triples by the whole of the band. The time was taken by Mr. J. Perryman, who was seated in the ringing-room. It is desired to acknowledge his courtesy in giving up his rope in favour of Mr. Jones. This performance commemorates the first peal on these bells rang in 1887.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PRINCE ALBERT MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

JOHN CORDINGLEY .. ..*Treble.*	JOSEPH PAGE .. .. .. 5.
WALTER CHILD .. .. .. 2.	JAMES ROSS .. .. .. 6.
EZRA KEIGHLEY .. .. .. 3.	WILLIAM HOLLINGS .. .. 7.
CHARLES PRATT .. .. .. 4.	WILLIAM DAVISON .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by WM. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by JOHN CORDINGLEY.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, *in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22¾ cwt.

GEORGE HOYLE .. .. ..*Treble.*	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. .. 5.
JAS. PILKINGTON .. .. 2.	ERNEST BISHOP .. .. .. 6.
JNO. MILLETT .. .. .. 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. 7.
WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY .. 4.	JAS. MILLETT .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Messrs. Hoyle and Birtwistle hail from Rochdale; Bishop from Bury; Wreaks from Manchester: the rest belong to Heywood

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Shrove Tuesday, February 14, 1888, *in Two Hours & Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. ..*Treble.*	EDGAR BUCKLEY .. .. 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE .. .. 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE .. .. 6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY .. .. 3.	JOSEPH WOOD .. .. .. 7.
JAMES H. SHAW .. .. .. 4.	EDWARD WOOD .. .. ..*Tenor*

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by F. BRIERLEY.

The above is a one-part peal, and is now rung for the first time, and was rung to celebrate the birthday of James Radcliffe, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

WARWICK.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

H. BASTABLE .. .. ..*Treble.*	J. BUFFERY .. .. 5.
J. JOYNES .. .. 2.	T. REYNOLDS .. .. .. 6.
A. J. JONES .. .. 3.	H. JOHNSON, JUN. .. .. 7.
C. STANBRIDGE .. .. .. 4.	A. THOMAS .. ..*Tenor*

Conducted by H. BASTABLE.

This is the first peal recorded on these bells which were augmented to eight some few months ago. It is still far from a pleasure for any ringer to *pilot* the 6th or 7th through a 5000.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM WALPOLE .. ..*Treble.*	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY .. .. .. 2.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 6.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD .. 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW .. .. 4.	S. WIGHTMAN, SEN .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place. The 6th is twelve times each way, and the 4th and 5th each twelve times in 5th's place, and sixteen times in 6th's place. The first 5056 of Bob Major rang by this Society; the first peal in the method by Walpole, Bedingfield, D. G. and George Wightman.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours and* 16 *Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES PRIOR .. .. ..*Treble.*	*GEORGE PRIOR .. .. .. 5.
WALTER PRIOR* .. .. .. 2.	HENRY PRIOR .. .. .. 6.
WILLIAM WATTS* .. .. 3.	*ISAAC CAVILL .. .. .. 7.
JOHN LUCKEY .. .. .. 4.	HENRY JAMES TUCKER ..*Tenor.*

Composed and conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th twenty-two times wrong and twenty-two times right, and was rung as a wedding peal to H. J. Tucker, which took place on January 25th, 1888. *First peal. H. J. Tucker belongs to Bishops Stortford; the rest belong to Stanstead, Essex.

THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.—ORMSKIRK.

On Tuesday, February 7, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minntes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25¾ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT .. .. ..*Treble.*	JAS. SHOLICAR .. .. .. 5.
WM. B. LLOYD .. .. .. 2.	WM. J. TAYLOR .. .. .. 6.
*CHAS. SHARPLES .. .. 3.	JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. 7.
WM. ELLIS .. .. 4.	PETER H. HARVEY .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES SHARPLES.

*First peal as conductor.

KEYSTON, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours-and-a-half,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

5040 CHANGES, IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS;

Being seven 6-scores of each of the following:—

ST. SIMONS, WESTMINSTER, PLACE, CANTERBURY, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

THOMAS F. BARWELL ..*Treble.*	FREDERICK BRAYBROOK .. 3.
JOHN TWELVETREE .. .. 2.	JOHN MARTIN .. .. .. 4.

RICHARD DUNKLEY .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by RICHARD DUNKLEY.

This is believed to be the first peal on the bells, and the first peal by all except the conductor, and it is a great many years since, if ever a peal has been rung in this county.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Monday, February 13, 1888, *in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. in E♭.

JOS. WINDRIDGE .. .. ..*Treble.*	FREDERICK CHAPMAN .. 5.
CHARLES CHAPMAN* .. .. 2.	‡HENRY SLANEY .. .. .. 6.
JOSEPH WAINWRIGHT .. 3.	GEORGE WOODS .. .. 7.
JOSEPH TIMMS .. .. .. 4.	ROBERT P. BRINDLAY ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by H. SLANEY.

*First peal. ‡First peal as conductor. This is the first peal ever rung by local men

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, February 13, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¾ cwt. in G.

HARRY MILLS .. .. ..*Treble.*	HARRY MASON .. .. .. 5.
GEORGE HUGHES .. .. 2.	ALBERT EDWARD PARSONS 6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 3.	JOHN SMITH .. .. .. 7.
C. W. BASSANO, ESQ. .. 4.	BENJAMIN STARKEY .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES (a ten-part peal, No. 1.), and Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

This was a friendly peal, and was rung at the first attempt. Messrs. Bassano, Mason, and Parsons hails from Old Hill; J. Smith hails from Netherton; the rest being part of the Tipton company.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. in E♭.

WILLIAM GOODCHILD*	..*Treble.*	*HENRY PHILLIPS	6.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY	2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	7.
HERBERT BAKER	3.	*STEPHEN KNIGHT	8.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	9.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE	5.	FREDERICK GEORGE	..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Caters.

BENINGTON.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor about 13 cwt.

JOHN KITCHENER	..*Treble.*	SAMUEL PAGE	5.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	6.
HERBERT BAKER	3.	CHARLES SHAMBROOK	7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM*	4.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th eighteen times in 6th's place, and the 2nd and 3rd never there. It is now rung for the first time.

BRAUGHING, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWARD CHAPMAN*	..*Treble.*	HERBERT BAKER	5.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	2.	JABEZ WARNER	6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK	3.	*GEORGE NEWSON	7.
LEONARD CHAPMAN	4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	..*Tenor.*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal in the method. This peal has the 3rd three courses in 6th's place, and the 2nd never there. It is now rung for the first and is the first peal in the method on the bells.

HATFIELD, HERTS.-THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' REVERSED. Tenor 27¾ cwt.

HERBERT BAKER	..*Treble.*	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	5.
JAMES JAUNCEY*	2.	STEPHEN KNIGHT	6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM	4.	THOMAS GATHARD	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. *First peal in the method.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, in Three Honrs and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5025 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

HENRY LEWIS*	..*Treble.*	MATTHEW ELLSMORE*	6.
EDWARD P. DEBENHAM*	2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	7.
STEPHEN KNIGHT*	3.	HERBERT BAKER	8.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM*	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	5.	*THOMAS WALLER	..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN. and Conducted by REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

This peal was published in "THE BELL NEWS," Nov. 17th, 1883. *First peal of Stedman Caters.

HUNSDON, HERTS.-THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, February 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Miuutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH POMFRET*	..*Treble.*	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	5.
HERBERT BAKER	2.	*HENRY PHILLIPS	6.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE*	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal in the method.

HUNSDON, HERTS.—THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, February 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

MATTHEW ELLSMORE	..*Treble.*	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	5.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	2.	*WILLIAM GOODCHILD	6.
HENRY PHILLIPS	3.	HERBERT BAKER	7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	4.	‡CHARLES LADLEY	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

*First peal in the method. ‡First peal. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION (Reversed). Tenor 25 cwt.

HERBERT BAKER	..*Treble.*	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	5.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK	2.	*HENRY A. BARNETT	6.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM	4.	FREDERICK GEORGE	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN REILLY	..*Treble.*	FREDERICK RICE	5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE	2.	THOMAS HART	6.
JOHN GASSON*	3.	JOHN JAY, SEN.	7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER	4.	WILLIAM ROBINSON	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN JAY, SEN.

*First peal of Triples. The above peal was rung on the occasion of the dedication of the four new bells.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH BELLFOUNDRY BRANCH).

On Friday, February 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5074 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt in D.

A. CRESSER	..*Treble.*	E. D. TAYLOR	6.
C. SMITH	2.	R. LANE	7.
A. R. ALDHAM	3.	W. T. BILLINGHURST	8.
J. W. TAYLOR, SEN.	4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.	9.
S. SMITH	5.	E. WIGHTMAN	..*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and is believed to be the second peal of Stedman Caters in the county; the first peal having been rung by the St. Margaret's company, Leicester, on March 19, 1887. It is also the first peal on ten bells that has ever been accomplished by performers who are all engaged at one establishment, and to ringers it will be more noteworthy that they are all regularly employed at the Loughborough Bellfoundry

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, *in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20¼ cwt. in E♭.

WILLIAM BURKIN	*Treble.*	JAMES W. TRAPPITT	5.
EDGAR BENNETT	2.	WILLIAM STATES	6.
A. B. CARPENTER, M.B.	3.	THOMAS VERRALL	7.
HENRY C. HALEY	4.	ALFRED BRUCE	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 12, 1888, *in Three Hours and One Minute,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

GEORGE CHARMAN*	*Treble.*	HARRY COOK	5.
WILLIAM SHORT	2.	†FELIX KNIGHT	6.
WALTER WADEY	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	HENRY CHANDLER	*Tenor.*

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

*First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal with a bob bell.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 14, 1888, *in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

A. CRESSER	*Treble.*	S. SMITH	5.
C. SMITH	2.	W. A. TYLER	6.
G. DRAYCOTT	3.	R. LANE	7.
W. T. BILLINGHURST	4.	*A. R. ALDHAM	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. W. LINES, of Ipswich, and Conducted by A. R. ALDHAM.

*First peal as conductor.

Date Touches.

CHESTER.—*Tapping.*—On Monday evening, February 6th, at his residence, 31 Duke Street, Mr. James Moulton tapped on his musical box of fairy bells, a date touch of Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. The above was witnessed by Messrs. W. Hodkinson, W. Povey, A. Cross, W. Cross, C. Price, and others, who can testify for the truth and accuracy of its performance. The above was composed by Mr. C. Price, of Eccleston, and contains the fifth and sixth three courses at home, with nine of the 8-6's. Afterwards he tapped a course of Grandsire Cinques, followed by a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening, January 31st, at the weekly practice at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 19 mins. H. Brown, 1; W. Messam, 2; H. Wood, 3; C. Want, 4; H. Newnham, 5; T. Miles, 6; W. Marks (composer and conductor), 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker, 9; J. Lisney, 10.

LOW MOOR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, February 12th, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins., to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Thomas Pickard. Thos. Pickard, 1; Joseph Worsnop, 2; Thos. Simpson, 3; Joseph Briggs, 4; Waddington Tordoff, 5; Absalom Wilkinson, 6; James W. Emmett, 7: Charles Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by George H. Hardy.

MILVERTON (Somersetshire).—On Thursday evening, February 9th, the local rang for practice at St. Michael's church, a date touch of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; W. Chapman, 4; R. Andrews, 5; J. Richards, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, eight members of the local company rang a date touch of 1888 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; Wm. J. Sevier; 7; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 8. Tenor 18¾ cwt. in E. Composed by H. J. Tucker. This is the longest length of Major on the bells, also by all the band, with the exception of the seventh man.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, at St. Dunstan's church, for evening service, a long course of Kent Treble Bob Royal. J. Pettit, 1; W. Tanner, 2; E. Clark, 3; E. Horrex, 4; W. Jones, 5; H. Springhall, 6; G. T. Mc Laughlin, 7; Ezra Carter, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; F. G. Newman, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Sunday, January 29th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor. For evening service, 396 Bob Minor, and after evening service 360 College Single. On Sunday, February 5th, for morning service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure: for evening service, 360 Grandsire Minor; after evening service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The following ringers took part in the above: T. Greetham, J. Hissey, G. Webb, A. Richardson, H. Hatto, T. Bidmead, J. Richardson, and J. Hatto. Conducted by A. Richardson, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk) —On Thursday, January 19th, by the voluntary band at St. Peter's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen (conductor), 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also on Thursday, January 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Allen, 3; H. Hill (conductor), 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; R. Grimes, 6. And on Wednesday, February 1st, 720 London Single Minor, in 27 mins. R. Grimes, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty bobs and two singles). W. Wright, 1; H. Hill, 2; W. Day, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire)—On Friday, February 10th, at the church of St. Modwen, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. Wm. Orme, 1; Jas. Hicklin, 2; W. J. Smith, 3; L. Bullock (conductor), 4; Geo. Appleby, 5; J. Walker, 6; Jno. Jaggar, 7; R. Logie, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham. On Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, 504 and 462 Grandsire Triples W. Orme, 1; J. Hicklin, 2; W. J. Smith, 3; Fred. Bullock, 4; L. Bullock, 5; J. Jaggar (conductor), 6; J. Walker, 7; J. Carvell, 8.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, February 4th, for practice at the parish church, the local society rang 720 Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; H. Hollingworth, 3; J. Warren. 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method with a bob bell by H. Hollingworth. Also for Divine Service on Sunday morning, February 5th, 336 Bob Major, and in the afternoon for Divine Service, 560 Bob Major in 20½ mins.; also for evening service, 784 in the same method, in 28 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; J. Vickers, 2; F. W. Cook, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; J. Warren, 5; G. A. Fish, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GRAVESEND.—On Sunday, February 5th, for Morning Service at St. George's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. H. Royston, 1; H. D. Davis, 2; J. Broom, 3; B. Spunner, 4; C. Waterman, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6; J. Allen, 7.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Brown, 1; *A. Cornford, 2; F. Ring, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 5th, for evening service, with the the assistance of Messrs. Hinton and Daltry, rang 430 changes of Grandsire Triples. C. Burden, 1; S. Phillips, 2; E. Duckham, 3; M. Sheppard, 4; G. Daltry (conductor), 5; F. Ellis, 6; J. Hinton, 7; J. Viney, 8. On Tuesday, February 7th, for practice, five plain courses and one short touch of Grandsire Major (176 changes). C. Burden, 1; F. Ellis, 2; C. Trevett, 3; E. Duckham, 4; S. Phillips, 5; E. Beake, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six. G. Colston, 1; W.

Emery, 2; T. Ellis. 3; C. Burden, 4; S. Phillips (conductor), 5; H. Whitelock, 6. And two plain courses of Grandsire Triples. G. Colston, 1; W. Emery, 2; E. Beake, 3; C. Burden, 4; C. Trevett, 5; F. Ellis, 6; S. Phillips, 7; H. Whitelock, 8. This is the longest touch of Triples by C. Burden and S. Phillips; the first touch of Grandsire Major by C. Burden, F. Ellis, S. Phillips, and C. Trevett. S. Phillips hails from Foy, Herefordshire; C. Burden from Pottern, near Devizes.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SALISBURY.—At St. Martin's church, on Quinquagesima Sunday, February 12th, 1056 Bob Major, in 40 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; T. Blackbourn, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; C. A. Clements, 7; W. W. Gifford, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 2nd, at St. Anne's church, for practice, three 120s of Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; R. Weeks, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), taken from *Rope Sight*. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—At the parish church, for morning service, on New Years Day, 720 Double Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Deal (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslam, 4; F. Strugnell, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. For evening service, 720 College Single, in 26 mins. H. Deal (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslam, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell, 6. On Sunday, January 8th, for evening service, 720 Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. H. Deal (conductor), 1; J. Johnson, 2; F. H. Brewer, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; G. Smith, 5; F. W. Haslam, 6. On Sunday, January 15th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal (conductor), 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell, 6. On Friday, January 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Smith, 1; F. W. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal (conductor), 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell, 6. On Sunday, January 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Thompson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Saturday, February 11th, after an unsuccessful attempt at a peal at the parish church, 812 Grandsire Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. A. Edwards, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 3; F. Radley, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; A. Bonnington, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KELSALE (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, February 12th, for Divine Service, six members of the Leiston company with Messrs. Thompson and Coleman, of the local company, rang a date touch of 1888 Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 9 mins. J. Coleman, 1; H. J. Button, 2; F. Wilson, 3; G. J. Morling, 4; F. Thompson, 5; J. M. Button, 6; A. Lincoln, 7; R. W. Stannard, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. This touch was composed and conducted by R. W. Stannard.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, February 7th, for practice at St. Paul's church, 720 Bob Minor, 25 mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; *J. Williamson (conductor), J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. *First 720 as conductor.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, February 5th, for evening service at St. Helen's church, 910 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's Original, in 33 mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. Jaggar (conductor), 6; W. Canner, 7; J. Curtis, 8.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday morning, February 5th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 180 Plain Bob Minor, with the seventh covering. R. Jackson, 1; T. Webb, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Spicer, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; Richard Jackson, 6; G. Gentle, 7. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles with 6-7 covering. T. Webb (conductor), 1; A. Squires, 2; Robert Jackson, 5; the rest as before. And in the evening, 448 Grandsire Triples. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; R. Jackson, 7; A. Bygrave, 8. Also 350 in ths same method, with J. Phillips, 5; G. Gentle, 8; the rest as before. Conducted by A. Squires. A. Bygrave hails from Wallington, and A. Squires from Hitchin.

BARLOW MOOR (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, February 2nd, at Christ Church, the local company rang for practice a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. J. Shaw, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; G. Pearson, 3; W. Mellor, 4; J. Wilde (conductor), 5; T. Brickell, 6; J. Darbyshire, 7; J. Gadd, 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, February 8th, at the parish church, 559 Grandsire Triples. T. Curtis, 1; J. Hewett, 2; J. Staples, 3; J. R. Higgens, 4; W. Tiller, 5; H. White, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; W. Sugg, 8. And 216 Grandsire Minor. T. Curtis, 1; J. Hewett, 2; J. R. Higgens, 3; J. Staples, 4; H. White, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. J. Staples hails from Havant, Hewett from Gosport, Whiting from Fareham; the rest belong to the local band.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Saturday, February 4th, for practice at St. Mary's (R.C.) church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. J. McPhillips, 1; J. T. Dobson, 2; J. Moore, 3; B. Ring, 4; A. Nichols, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. Tenor 22 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. Also on handbells, a course of Grandsire Triples. J. Moore, 1-2; J. Moore, jun., 3; B. King, 4; E. Wallis (conductor), 5-6; A. Nicholls, 7-8. E. Wallis hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, February 9th, for practice at Christ Church, touches of Kent, Oxford, and Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, College Single, and Grandsire. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, February 1st, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 720 Bob Minor and two 120s of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 4th, two 120's of Bob Minor, called differently. On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor. J. Hinchley, 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 6; the others standing as before. After Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twelve bobs). J. Fox, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

CARLISLE.—On Thursday, January 2nd, at St. Stephen's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Gregson, 1; J. J. Patterson, 2; F. Gibson, 3; D. Harding, 4; J. Jefferson, 5; *W. J. Scott (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. *First as conductor.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, February 7th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26½ mins., with 7-8 behind. Geo. Dukes, 1; Chas. Daniels, 2; *H. Woodhall, 3; *Robt. Beasley, 4; *J. A. Meredith, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6; C. Worten, 7; —. Bennett, 8. Also 504 Bob Triples, in 19½ mins. G. Dukes, 1; Caleb Beasley, 2; C. Daniels, 3; H. Woodhall, 4; Robt. Beasley, 5; J. A. Meredith, 6; H. Mason (conductor), 7; —. Bennet, 8. *First 720. Mason hails from Old Hill; Bennett from Rowley. With the exception of Bennett all are members of the Worcester and adjoining districts Association.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, February 6th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing Queens and Tittums, in 49 mins. J. Randall, 1; J. Spicer, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. J. Spicer hails from Baldock.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, February 8th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, in 28 mins. J. Palmer, 1; C. W. Bassano, 2; W. Bird, 3; H. Mason, 4; A. E. Parsons, 5; W. Green, 6. And on Tuesday, February 14th, a 720 Double Court in 28 mins. W. Foxall, 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; W. Green, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; R. Bird, 5; W. Bird, 6. Both conducted by C. W. Bassano, and they are the first in the methods by all and on the bells.

SLOUGH.—On Wednesday, January 4th, at St. Mary's church, several 120's of Bob Doubles, and touches of Triples. And on Tuesday, January 10th, the annual supper of the parish church society was held at "The Crown" Hotel, Slough, Mr. W. Leader in the chair. Eleven members sat down, Mr. J. R. Fussell, and the Fussell brothers, of Slough, being invited. Numerous songs and handbell tunes were rendered, and a very enjoyable four hours spent together. Also on Wednesday, January 12th, 500 Bob Triples. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; T. Udell, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; W. Fussell, 5; W. Wilder, 6; A. Fussell, 7; J. Perryman, 8. Also several courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor on handbells by the six middle men, A. Fussell (conductor). And on Thursday, January 19th, 400 Bob Triples, and two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. And on Thursday, January 26th, 400 Bob Triples, and within one lead of a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Mr. Akery also rung the 5th in a 360 Grandsire Triples.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday, January 3rd, at the residence on Mr. G. W. Cartmel, 720 Grandsire Minor. T.

Waller, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 5-6. On Wednesday, February 1st, the St. Peter's Society rang at the parish church four plain courses of Grandsire Triples. A. Hull, 1; J. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; W. H L. Buckingham, 4; H. Lewis, 5; T. Waller, 6; E. P. Debenham, 7; A. Sibley, 8. The first course of Triples by A. Hull and J. Brewer. Also three courses. H. Brewer, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; E. Hull, 3; T. Waller, 4; H. Lewis, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; E. P. Debenham, 7; A. Hull, 8. And three courses. E. Hull, 1; G. W, Cartmel, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; H. Brewer (first course of Triples on an inside bell), 4; H. Lewis, 5; T. Waller, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; A. Sibley, 8. On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 168 and 84 Grandsire Triples. J. Brewer, 1; T. Waller, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; H. Brewer, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; E. P. Debenham, 7; A. Sibley, 8. And for evening service, six courses. W. Little, 1; J. C. Mitchell, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P Debenham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Wednesday, February 1st, in the belfry, a plain course of Grandsire Caters. A. Hull, 1; E. Hull, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. And one course of Grandsire Cinques. E. Hull, 1-2; J. C. Mitchell, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8; W H. L. Buckingham, 9-10; T. Waller, 11-12. On Friday, February 3rd, at the office of the *Hertfordshire Standard*, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Waller (first 720), 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 5-6. And on Monday, February 13th, in St. Peter's belfry, six courses of Grandsire Triples. A. Hull, 1; W. Little, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; J. Brewer, 5; H. Brewer, 6; E. Hull, 7-8. Also six courses of Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E P. Debenham, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. *Chiming.*—On Sunday, February 12th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 518 Grandsire Triples, and a course of Major. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; *G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; *T. Waller, 7-8.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, January 21st, at the parish church, the local company assisted by Mr. J. E. Hern, of Newnham, rang their first 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Gleed, 1, H. Gundon, 2; T. Hart, 3; J. E. Hern (conductor), 4; F. Trigg, 5; W. Gleed, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

WINDSOR.—On Monday, January 2nd, for practice at St. John's church, short touches of Grandsire and Bob Triples. F. King, W. Fussell, T. Udell, A. Andrews, R. Flaxman, W. Wilder, A. Fussell, J. Jones, and J. Perryman. And on Monday, January 16th, touches in the same methods. Also on Monday, January 23rd, 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins., followed by two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Andrews, T. Udell, A. Fussell, W. Wilder, R. Flaxman, W. Fussell. Mr. J. Akery rang the 5th in 368 Grandsire Triples, this being his longest touch. And several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by A. Andrews, in which Messrs. Patch, Barker, and J. Perryman took part. Also on Monday, January 30th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor (false), and several touches of Grandsire and Bob Triples, in which Mr. F. King, and the Rev. W. S. Willett took part with with those above named. Mr. J. Akery rang the fifth in 504 Grandsire Triples, and Mr. J. Jones some Doubles on the seventh with 4,6,8 behind.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 13TH, 1888.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe—On Monday, February 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. *E. Streeter, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Double Oxford Bob. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 9th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; R. Bourn, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Double Court Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor, 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; R. Bourn, 3; T. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. *First 720, age 15 years.

By the Brighton Branch at Brighton.—On Monday, February 13th, at St. Peter's Church, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; J. Reilly, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Webster (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also on Saturday, February 11th, at St. Nicholas's Church, a date touch (1888 changes) of Grandsire Triples, compiled from Holt's original, in 65 mins. J. Neves, 1; H. Boniface, 2; J. Fox, 3; J. Reilly, 4; G. A. King, 5; W. J. Fisher, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Palmer, 8. Rung in honour of J. Searle's 35th birthday. Also on Tuesday, February 14th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; G. Smart (Steyning), 4; W. Palmer, 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8. Also on Sunday, February 12th, at St. Paul's Church, for service, a quarter peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. H. Eves, 1; J. Salmon, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; * — Marshall, 5; G. Biggerstaff, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. *First quarter-peal.

By the Ringmer Branch at Ringmer.—On Monday evening, February 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. C. Painter, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. Washer, 4; A. Slarks, 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6; G. Taylor, 7; T. Miller, 8. And on the following Saturday evening, a 360 of Bob Minor and some shorter tonches, as a welcome to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. Also on the Sunday, for evening service, a 360 of Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. C. Painter, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; H. Jones, 3; A. E. Paris, 4; A. Slarks, 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6; G. Taylor, 7; J. Miller, 8.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning—On Sunday, February 5th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Hills (Angmering), 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Hills (Angmering), 1; G. Gatland, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 9th, a 720 of Duke of York. F. Morris, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 12th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2; C. Chambers, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court. J. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Chambers, 3; E. Brackley, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

By the Warham branch at Warnham.—On Sunday, February 12th, a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. and 1 min. (for particulars see peal column).

By a mixed band at Lindfield.—On Thursday, February 9th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Gasson, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; F. Rice, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Jay, sen., 8. Also a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. and 6 mins. (For particulars see peal column).

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ON Saturday, February 11th, eight members of the above Guild met at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, Fareham, for a peal of Stedman Triples. After ringing thirty-seven courses of Thurstan's Composition, in 1 hr. 53 mins., they were much surprised by the tenor man, without any warning whatever (and it is supposed with the full intention of bringing the peal to an untimely end) cutting his bell down to the front, and no amount of persuasion could induce him to get her back behind. After some chopping about with the bells in the front, he set her up, coolly put on his coat, and walked out of the tower without giving any explanation of his conduct, or offering the slightest apology. The feelings of the remaining seven may perhaps be better imagined than described, more especially as the striking had been excellent, and there seemed every chance of their scoring a well-struck peal. If forgiven, there is no doubt he will never be forgotten by them. He is one of the old school whose services can well be dispensed with. The ringers were: J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Gratham, 3; H. White, 4; W. L. Chamberlain, 5; F. Hill, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Carter, 8. On Sunday, February 12th, for morning service, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Williams (conductor), 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; F. Hill, 5; G. Passingham, 6; W. L. Chamberlain, 7; T. Matthews, 8. And for afternoon service, 333 and 420 of Stedman Triples. F. Hill, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 5; the rest as before.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE TWELVE COURSE-ENDS WITH THE 6TH AT HOME.

SIR,—I must ask your readers to extend me their indulgence and allow me to make one or two corrections to my papers on the above subject, for writing under a press of business, I have permitted several inaccuracies to pass into print. Page 553, second column, ninth line, may be better thus read:—If n represent any number of pairs of courses, then 1+2+2+n must always be an uneven number. Page 554, first column, 12th line from bottom, omit:—"severing the endless circle of the touch." I find on further enquiry that only four of the six twelve-course plans are derivable from eleven-course touches, and that, in No. 1 and its reverse, the endless circle has had no pre-existence. In the last paragraph omit the last five lines from the word "composition" as this sentence is untrue. Since writing my papers I have

entered into a correspondence on the subject with Mr. W. H. Thompson who has thrown further light upon it by sending me a number of interesting diagrams. I have in consequence gone deeper into the matter, and I can now state with certainty that, not only is there but one arrangement of a three-course touch, but also only one possible of a five-course touch; further, that the same apparently is true of the seven, nine, and eleven course touches, and that, therefore, the touches given in my paper are the only ones of those lengths obtainable in complete courses. These touches I have given in duplicate, reversed. Some of them are also capable of further variation by starting at a different course-end, but the actual composition of the touches, that is, the distance apart of the bob leads, will be found incapable of alteration. I have as yet conceived no actual proof of this fact which is a curious one and worth further attention. To advert for a moment to a different subject. A correspondent enquired some weeks ago as to the proof necessary in composing peals of Treble Bob Maximus, saying that Mr. Snowdon, in his work, stated the proof to be the same as that of Major. This struck me as unlikely, and having had a little leisure during the last few days I looked into the matter, and found, what is no doubt well known to composers, that proof by bob lead-ends is sufficient on 12 bells as it is on 10, even if the back three be thrown into and out of the Tittums. This is, of course, on the supposition that the 7th and the bells above it are fixed throughout. I am at a loss to know how Mr. Snowdon, usually so accurate, could have fallen into this error. A. Percival Heywood.

Caldy Manor, Birkenhead, February 11th, 1888.

Information Wanted.

Sir,—Seeing in the issue of January 21st, page 521, a touch of 1008 Bob Major, by T. Greenwood, of Marsham, on conducting the same myself, the calling did not bring the changes at the third time of H, as printed, but by calling a single instead of a bob at third M, it will produce the change H (5 4 2 3 6). And the fifth bob at M has to be omitted to bring the change up next lead, H 3 7 4 5 6 2. The same contains fifty-four calls, and its length is 1344 changes.

A. Symonds.

A Suspected Impostor.

Sir,—With your permission I wish to warn the Exercise against a man who is going about visiting the various churches, where there are rings of bells, with the intention of obtaining money from the ringers. He states he is a native of Holmfirth, Yorkshire, and has been a ringer for thirty years, is a boot maker by trade, but is out of work at present. He is about fifty years of age, has short, grey hair, and is clean shaved, and about 5 ft. 5 ins. in height. I came across him at St. Saviour's church, Bacup, on Sunday evening, the 22nd ult., he having been at Christ Church in the morning of the same day. Being doubtful of his tale I asked him if he knew certain Huddersfield ringers, also Mr. Whitaker, the Hon. Sec. of the Yorkshire Association, but as he did not seem to know any of these ringers either personally or by name, I put him down as an impostor. When asked to have a pull he makes the excuse of having hurt one of his arms some time ago. On Sunday morning, the 29th ult., he was at Manchester Cathedral, and then made enquiries if there were any other churches with bells in Manchester. Should any company receive a visit from this person I hope they will be on their guard. A. Ed. Wreaks.

Handbell Peals on Sundays.

Sir,—I was very pleased to see the remarks made by "Free Lance" in last week's issue anent the above subject. The practice of peal-ringing on Sundays, either in the tower (or more especially on handbells) cannot be too strongly condemned; although I do not quite agree with "Free Lance" in saying that the peal he refers to having been rung in a public house makes it any more to be blamed. There is no doubt that a great deal of ringing for mere amusement takes place in church towers on a Sunday, which has nothing to do with church services or festivals, but still a sort of indirect connection with the Church and her services may be to a certain extent associated with such ringing. With handbells the case is totally different. These have, as your correspondent observes, no more connection with the Church than a game of chess or any other scientific amusement. For my own part I have no sympathy whatever with the extreme Sabbatarianism practised by some, but on the other hand I should be sorry to do or countenance anything to encourage the laxity in such matters which is unfortunately so prevalent in the present day.

J. R. Jerram.

The Trinity Peals and the Waterloo Society.

Sir,—It is a pity that Mr. Baron should rush into print on this matter without first refreshing his memory by looking up the back correspondence. If he refers to "The Bell News" of December 17th last he will see that the correspondence was opened by "By Order" whoever he may be) taking the most unusual course (by order I presume) of publishing private affairs, instead of adopting the recognised plan of keeping them quiet, and this having been done, the Waterloo Society must put up with the consequences. For my own credit it was necessary to give a little more light on the subject, hence my letter of the 24th December last. In your issue of the 7th January, Mr. Tyack immediately stultifies the action taken by his society in making their private affairs public, by stating that "they do not desire to enter into controversy in your columns upon the subject of the conduct of their business," and then follows with further controversial matter. As to the first portion, why their first letter, for they must have known such a letter would not remain unnoticed, and with regard to the second, I think my reply in your issue of 21st January clearly shows his statements to be wholly without foundation. Then follows Mr. Baron's effusion in your issue of February 4th, commencing with a statement that it is quite time the correspondence ceased, etc., etc. (because, I suppose, he finds they are getting the worst of the argument) and then immediately throwing more oil on the fire by a long tirade, consisting of abuse and very little argument. It would be well for Mr. Baron to further refresh his memory (one, by the way, which would be awkward for a conductor when calling a peal), and recollect that he was the cause of the whole of this unfortunate affair, by stating at a meeting of the Waterloo Society that "Holt's Original Reversed" was no peal at all, and that he should not let it be booked; "he" being, I suppose, the Society, and all the others nonentities. Finding there was a great probability of the peals not being booked, I withheld my entrance fee, not being able to afford throwing money away for nothing. The band as originally framed was for the St. James's Society, and it was only on account of meeting one short that a Waterloo man was put in, and he being unwilling to join the St. James's Society, we were proposed as members of the Waterloo; hence my remarks about the St. James's Society. Mr. Baron also well knows that one man was elected much against his will, not caring for the further expense, and only consented when another Waterloo man said "he would make that right." He, the Waterloo man, however, did not keep his promise. I presume, from Mr. Baron's remarks, that all my letters to Mr. Tyack were read to his Society, or that they fully endorse his action in keeping them back. There is certainly one thing imported into the whole of this matter by Mr. Baron and his friends, which is most palpable to those in the know, and that is that they are nearly all members of the St. James's Society, and have not yet recovered from the way they were "called over the coals" about the Tottenham peal. In conclusion, I wish Mr. Baron to fully understand that "abuse is not argument," though he no doubt thinks the conclusion of his letter a good way out of an awkward position.

G. B. Lucas.

The Peal of Court Bob Triples at Spalding.

Sir,—Having seen your report in "The Bell News" of February 4th, that Shipway's ten-part peal of Court Bob Triples was rung at Spalding on the 24th of January, and supposed to be the first time it was rung, I beg to say it was rung at Warnham, Sussex, on September 18th, 1886, and was conducted by me, and we have a tablet recording the same. It was reported in this paper at the time.

Henry Burstow.

"A Plain Answer."

Sir,—I do not consider what Mr. Mackman calls a plain answer to my enquiry is an answer at all. I cannot see what difference it makes whether I sign my name or not. It certainly would not make a false touch true at any rate, for I fail to see how that half-peal of Court Bob Triples can be true. It is certain it cannot be the first half of the peal they started for, and therefore what is it? A part of the first half and last half all jumbled up together? If so it would take a very clever conductor to make a true half-peal of it. Perhaps none the more for me not signing my name, Mr. Mackman will alter his mind and enlighten the Exercise how he performed this clever fete, as I have not the slightest doubt that there are a great many conductors who would find themselves at a loss how to call a half-peal round exact and true when a change-course has occurred. For my own part I do not consider a touch is true when a change-course has occurred, although it may not repeat it is certain that the bells that changed course have not gone according to the rules of the method being rang, and therefore it cannot go under the heading of that method as a true touch. I hope this will be received in the same friendly spirit in which it is meant. W. B.

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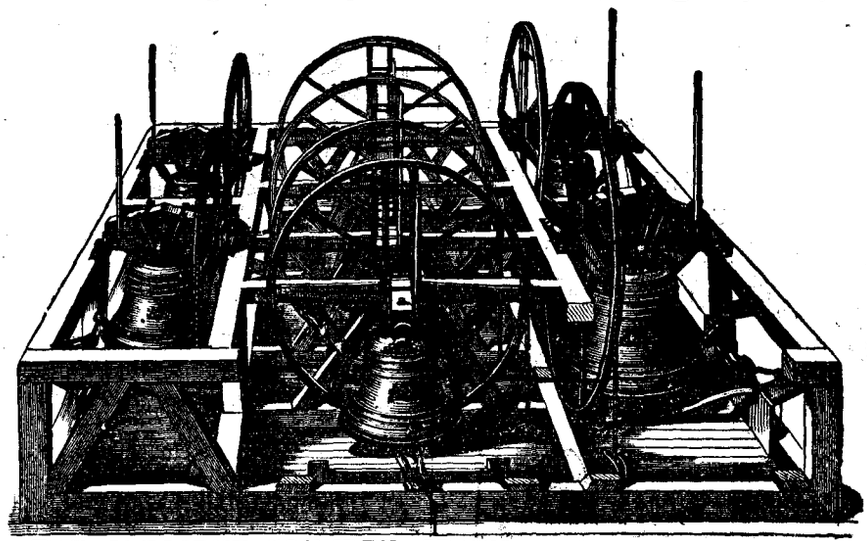

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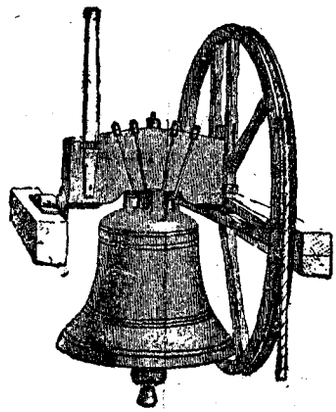

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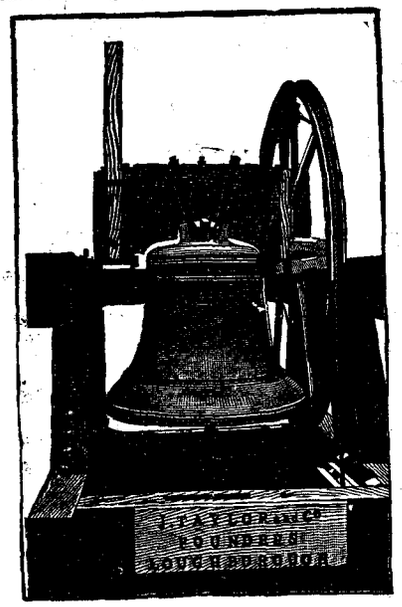

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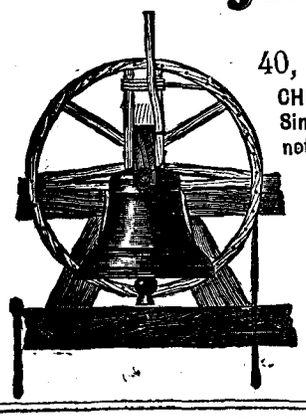

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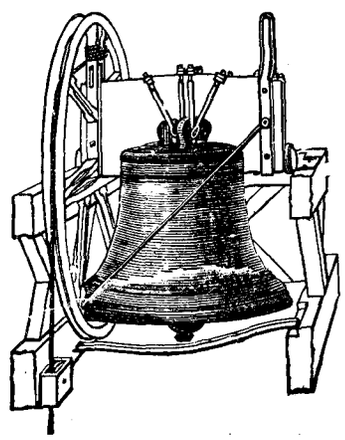

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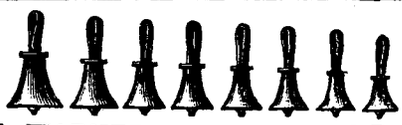

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THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held at the Gainsborough local centre on Saturday, February 11th, and was attended with success. Through the kindness of the Rev. Canon Williams, vicar of Gainsborough, and the Rev. C. E. Cockin, rector of Lea, the rings of eight and six respectively were placed at the disposal of the members, who upon arriving in the afternoon rang several touches.

At half-past five o'clock tea was provided at the Coffee Palace, and was partaken of by officers and members from Lincoln, Market Rasen, Grimsby, in additiou to the Gainsborough members, and some visitors from Stowe. The chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Williams, who was supported by the Rev. W. N. Usher, rector of Stowe, and other gentlemen; Mr. F. F. Linley, the vice-president for the Gainsboro' centre, occupying the vice-chair.

The rev. CHAIRMAN, addressing the meeting gave the visiting brethren a hearty welcome to Gainsborough, and said he was glad to see so many present. He also alluded to the fact that some difficulty had been experienced in selecting a suitable day for the meeting, this day having clashed with the unveiling of the Bishop Wordsworth memorial at Lincoln, which had taken several away who would otherwise have been happy to show their interest in the Association and its work. Amongst those who had explained their inability to attend, letters had been received from their friend the Rev. C. E. Cockin, rector of Lea, the Rev. W. F. Westbrooke, of Caistor, the Rev. T. T. Hedges, Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., the Rev. A. W. M. Drew, and the churchwardens of Gainsborough. He was very glad to inform them that his friend Mr. Usher, rector of Stowe, was anxious to become a member of the Association, and he had pleasure in calling upon him to make a few remarks.

The Rev. W. N. USHER said he took great interest in bells. Although he had not had much practical experience of the matter, he had seen a good deal of bell ringing at Edinburgh Cathedral, where they had a fine ring of ten bells, which were opened eight or nine years ago by a company of Leeds ringers. Since that time he had attended the practices of the ringers, and had even got to know something about bell-ringing, though not in a practical way. Still he hoped to know a little more about them, and hoped he should get to know more of the practical part. He thought it was the duty of every clergyman, where they had a good peal of bells. to assist an Association of this kind, and make it as good and strong as possible, because by banding together and meeting in this way they could interchange ideas about bell-ringing and stimulate each other. By meeting together as they were that day did them all good, and helped to rub off those rough corners which were sometimes found. He hoped this Association would answer the purpose aimed at. After mentioning the circumstance that this country took the lead in bell-ringing, he expressed a hope that Lincolnshire might take its place amongst the leading counties in the art, and maintain its place there.

Mr. LINLEY explained the objects which the Association had in view, viz., to promote belfry reform, and to encourage the art of change-ringing. He pointed out that before change-ringing was first originated by Mr. Stedman, Lincolnshire had a good reputation for round ringing. He remarked that this Association was originated by the ringers themselves, and sprung out of an attempt on the part of a certain body of ringers to carry out certain reforms; it was well known that the best of reforms were those which had arisen from those who first sought to reform themselves. They all knew that ringers had not always been a desirable acquaintance, but matters had now very much changed for the better. Mr. Ellacombe had told them that at one time the clergy used to hesitate to go to a place where there were peals of bells, because of the troubles they were likely to have with the ringers. But as he had already said, things had materially changed, and the reforms now aimed at were of a progressive nature. The object of the Association was to bring the ringers together, and unite them as an Association with the clergy and churchwardens, with the further object of bringing before the clergy and churchwardens the state of the bells and ringers, aud of encouraging each other in the art of change-ringing. He thought they had been fairly successful so far, and they hoped to be more successful in the future. He mentioned the fact that the Association had appointed instructors, and was anxious to render any help possible to those who were desirous of studying and practising change-ringing.

Mr. J. C. TINKER, as a ringing member, also explained the objects of the Association, commenting upon the improvement which had taken place amongst the Gainsboroguh ringers. He said that belfry reform must be a mutual obligation, and such it had proved to be, as the clergy, who at one time took little or no notice of their belfries or ringers, now evinced great interest in both, and this good feeling was heartily reciprocated by the ringers. He believed such an improvement was largely due to such Associations as the North Lincolnshire Association, and the Gainsborough society especially had Mr. Linley particularly to thank for the great change which had been affected in their belfry. The clergy and ringers were now in touch with each other, and instead of ringers frequently performing their ringing duties and going away to some other place of worship, they took an interest in the Church, and felt it incumbent upon them to be present at the service there. The Association during the past year had made rapid strides in change-ringing, and he had been glad to see in "THE BELL NEWS" and other papers that the other societies in the Association, at Market Rasen, Lincoln, and Grimsby, were going forward and making progress.

Mr. D. SEAMER, of Grimsby, proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens of Gainsborough and Lea for their kindness in promptly placing their bells at the disposal of the members of the Association for the day. This was seconded by Mr. H. Maidens, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN responded, and endorsed all that had been said by Mr. LINLEY and Mr. TINKER on the subject of the success attained by the Association, and the improved character of the church belfries and the ringers themselves.

The business portion of the meeting was next proceeded with. The Chairman announced that they had the painful duty of reporting the first death since the Association was formed, the Rev. T. P. Holdich, of Lmwood, who was one of the oldest practical ringers in the county and an honorary member of the Association, having died at the age of 84; as a tribute of respect the members at Market Rasen and Gainsborough rang muffled peals to his memory.

The Rev. W. N. USHER was elected an honorary member, and three probationary members were enrolled.

It was resolved that the Annual Meeting be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 28th, the day's programme to be arranged by the committee.

Several short touches were subsequently rung on the Gainsborough bells by mixed bands.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

ON Saturday, February 11th, an ordinary meeting of the above Guild was held at Long Sutton. Ringing commenced about eleven, and was kept up until two o'clock, when an adjournment was made to the "Crown and Woolpack," where an excellent dinner was provided by Host Boon in his usual good style, presided over by Dr. Seccombe, of Terrington, and supported by the Rev. S. Leigh Bennett, and Mr. Churchwarden Swain, and twenty-five ringers from King's Lynn, Terrington, Walpole, Long Sutton, and Spa lding. After dinner the toasts of "Church and Queen" were given and ably responded to. The usual business of the meeting was transacted, several new members being elected. The next meeting was fixed to be held at Walpole St. Peter's, on Whit-Monday. Ringing was again resumed, and kept up until time for departure arrived. The methods rung during the day was Oxford Treble Bob, London Single, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Doubles.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above society will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at the "York Hotel," York Road, S.E. Tickets three shillings each. Members and friends requiring tickets, will please forward their names to the Secretary on or before Monday, February 20th. Dinner at 7 p.m. sharp.

G. WILD, *Hon. Sec,*
8, *Francis Street, Waterloo Road, S.E.*

PRESENTATION TO A RINGER AT EXETER.

On Monday evening last, an exceedingly pleasant and gratifying ceremony took place at Mr. Short's, "Queen Victoria" inn, Exeter, Mr. Edward Pitt, of the St. Edmund's Society, being presented by Mr. Sidney Herbert, a member of the same Society, with a silver lever watch, as a memento of his having conducted the first peal of 5040 changes on the bells of St. Edmund's, which same was rung on January 30th of the present year. Besides the recipient and donor of the watch there were also present Messrs. W. C. Marsh (in the chair), H. Swift, T. Townsend, A. W. Searle, W. Richardson, and W. Goss (all the foregoing of whom took part in the peal), W. H. Webber, Tucker, G. Allen, and J. Roberts.

The CHAIRMAN, who was cordially received, in the course of a few remarks said that the object of their meeting together that evening was a very pleasant one and known to most of them. It was to present to Mr. Pitt a watch in commemoration of their great achievement, namely that of ringing the first peal on their bells within eight months of the formation of the Society, He could feel himself that those eight months had been far from wasted, and. so far as Mr. Pitt was concerned, he thought every praise was due to him for the excellent way in which he had carried out the work of conducting on all occasions. He was sure that Mr. Pitt would value the watch which Mr. Herbert was about to present to him, he hoped he would be spared many years to wear it, and that when he looked at the face of it, he would think of his old friends who stood around him on the 30th of January. He referred to the great zeal which Mr. Pitt had invariably shown in bringing on new members and endeavoured to instil in them the love of change-ringing. He truly hoped that Mr. Pitt would be with them for many years to come and that the watch would put him in mind of the old days and friends.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, who met with a hearty reception, said it gave him very great pleasure and he felt it a privilege to be able to present their friend Mr. Pitt with a silver lever watch. He had always admired Mr. Pitt's ringing, the first when he joined the St. Sidwell's band, and when he had the pleasure of seconding his election. In handing to him the watch, he hoped he would live long and enjoy every blessing, and that it would ever be a reminder to him that he had enjoyed the cordial friendship and very good opinion of all his fellow ringers. He also hoped that the watch, when Mr. Pitt departed this lite, would be handed down as an heirloom and as a memento of a worthy representative of the family of Pitt, which he was sure would be always known in this city as being associated with a thoroughly and efficient good ringer, and one who was ever ready to assist those whom he could on all occasions. He assisted the St. Edmund's Society in a time of need. He admired Mr. Pitt's generosity in coming among them almost unsolicited, and with him Mr. Richardson, when the Society was in its infancy. They both came to the Society in a time of need, and a friend in the time of need was a friend indeed. As a little recognition of the services which Mr. Pitt had rendered to the Society he formed an idea which had culminated in the interesting ceremony of that evening. In the course of some further observations, Mr. Herbert said that he hoped the next time the Society had to record a peal it would not be Grandsire but Stedman Triples, and he might say that whoever the conductor of the peal was, as a slight encouragement to him from his humble self, he would be most happy and ready, provided he could conduct it within two years, to present him with a silver watch and chain, or if he did not want that he should be pleased to offer him a £5 note. They had in their Society several men who could ring Stedman, and he trusted time was not far distant when they would have another member conducting a peal of Stedman. They had, however, gained what they had been striving to, namely, to successfully accomplish the first peal on the bells in St. Edmund's tower, and from what they had heard from ringers belonging to the higher part of the country, it was grand striking. He was sure that the progress which the Society had made was most gratifying to the Hon. Sec. (Mr. Marsh). The Society when he first took the formation of it in hand only numbered three, and now he might say it numbered thirty-three. He trusted their numbers would still go on increasing. Mr. Herbert amid applause, then handed the watch to Mr. Pitt, remarking that it gave him very great pleasure to do so, and expressed the hope that he would be able to time many peals by it.

The inner cover of the watch bore the following inscription: "Presented to E. Pitt by Sidney Herbert, January 30th, 1888." On the outer cover there is an engraving of a bell with stock and wheel.

Mr. PITT, who was considerably affected, said he was afraid that Mr. Herbert had slightly exaggerated his good qualities. He was very much obliged to him, and he could scarcely find words in which to thank him enough for his extreme kindness and goodwill. The honour of conducting the first peal at St. Edmund's would in his estimation have been quite sufficient, without having a watch presented to him. He was sure it was an honour to be able to assist in the first peal rung on the bells, and he felt confident that if the Society progressed at the same rate in the next seven months as it had in the past, it would be the first in the county. He hoped to remain among them for a long time to come, and trusted that if he did not conduct the next peal, Mr. Marsh would be successful in doing so. Continuing, he said that there was not probably one man in every thousand who would have done what Mr. Herbert had, and even if the idea had been thought of, it would not have been carried out. It came, however, from Mr. Herbert's heart, and it was that fact which made the present all the more acceptable. In conclusion, he thanked them all for the kind manner in which they had all received him, and assured them that anything he could do to promote the art of change-ringing would be most gladly done.

Mr. W. H. WEBBER said they all highly appreciated Mr. Pitt's talents, and the kindness he had shown to them, and especially did the younger members of the society thank him for the consideration and encouragement shown to them by him in every possible way he could. It was the younger members' own fault if they did not get on. He was sure they all felt grateful to him, and he hoped that they in turn would do their best to deserve the encouragement that he had kindly given to them.

Mr. H. SWIFT observed that Mr. Pitt had taken a wonderful interest in change-ringing from the start, and was a credit to the St. Sidwell's society, which he first joined, to the St. Edmund's society, and in fact to the city of Exeter. He did not think himself that there was another man in the city of Mr. Pitt's age who could do the work in change-ringing that he could. He hoped he would live long and be with them for a long time and conduct many peals. Referring to the society, he observed that they could scarcely be expected to make such progress during the seven months it had been established as they had. They had during the present year rung a date touch, done a peal, and to crown it all they had had two grand entertainments, whereby they had received sufficient money with the exception of a few shillings to provide a peal of handbells for the society. He proposed the health of Mr. Herbert, the donor of the watch, and in doing so he observed that Mr. Herbert took an exceedingly great interest in the society. He not only gave time but something else which was so essential to secure the financial condition of the society. He was most useful and generous in every respect, and the society was lucky to have him as a member.

Mr. HERBERT, in acknowledging the compliment, said he thanked them heartily for their kind allusions to him, but he did not feel that he entirely deserved them, what he had done was with the greatest pleasure, and he felt as much happiness in giving the watch as he should have been if he had been the receiver. He never took a greater interest in ringing than he did at the present time, and what little he had to spare in the shape of time would be devoted to the St. Edmund's society, and if he could assist any little object connected with it by his small purse he should be most happy to do so.

The remainder of the evening was spent in a pleasant manner.

TO CHANGE-RINGERS.—Wanted, a Cemetery-keeper, for S. Andrew's, Hertford; must understand ground-work and some gardening; to live in the Lodge, which has but three small bed-rooms.—Particulars on application. State references, and also methods rung, to Canon Wigram, Hertford.

WANTED.—A pair of small bells, for striking quarters in a turret clock; should weigh together about 2 cwt.—Address, stating size, note and price, E.D.M., Lambrook, Bracknell.

RINGING FESTIVITY AT ROTHERHAM.

On Shrove Tuesday, the Rotherham ringers with a few friends from Sheffield and Rawmarsh, met at the headquarters. the "Three Cranes" inn, to celebrate the ringing of a peal of Stedman Caters on the above day (particulars of which will be found in the peal column). A very sumptuous dinner was put on the table by the worthy host, Mr. Ashley, which gave every satisfaction. After enjoying the good things provided, the company set about making themselves comfortable for the rest of the evening. Mr. Walter Coates was called to the chair, and Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley to the vice-chair.

The Chairman at once opened the proceedings with the usual loyal toasts, which being dispensed with, called on the vice-chairman to make a few remarks.

Mr. C. H. Hattersley on rising, said it gave him great pleasure to be once again mingled with his old friends at Rotherham, and was glad they had accomplished the peal. He was certain it would be the meaus of further cementing the friendship between the two old towns of Sheffield and Rotherham, and concluded by giving the toast of "Unity, Perseverance, and Sociability, amongst ringers." After this preliminary, the handbells were brought in, when Grandsire Caters was rung in good even time, followed by Grandsire Royal. The harmonious portion of the evening was opened by the vice-chairman giving the old, but very acceptable song, "My Village Home," and was shortly followed by Mr. Athey singing "As a fair girl was sitting," etc. The song was much appreciated, and it was evident to all that it reminded the singer of his youthful days.

The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Visiting Members," which was responded to by Mr. Thomas Hattersley, of Sheffield, and Mr. Joseph Farmery, of Rawmarsh, both these gentlemen testifying their hearty approval of meetings of this description. Mr. T. Hattersley then sang "Where are the friends of my youth," and was shortly followed by Mr. Ashley singing "Swinging in the Lane." At this point of the proceedings Mr. Job Athey rose and said although the peal rang that afternoon was originally intended to be his farewell peal (and also that of his friend, Mr. John Horner, who on account of ill-health was not able to take a part), further said that if his services in the future should be required, and should his health permit, he would not be found wanting in courage to assist his fellow-ringers in a similar performance.

The Chairman again rising, said he ought not to let the opportunity pass without again referring to the peal they had rung that day. He had seen the figures, and speaking technically, it was a credit to the composer and conductor, and hoped before long to meet again with the same company.

The Vice-Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment, and said the time he devoted to ringing generally he never considered lost, when he met with men who were for the time being the very heart and soul of the science. He referred to some notable performances in which it had been his privilege to ring with the Rotherham men, and concluded by thanking them for their courtesy. The health of the host and hostess brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

BIRTHDAY GATHERING.

On Saturday, February 11th, the Eccles society met at "The Oddfellows Arms," to celebrate the seventy-fourth birthday of Mr. Richard Ashcroft, who has been a ringer at Eccles for fifty-four years. Dinner was served up by the host, Mr. Goodall, to whom great praise is due for the excellent manner in which he catered for the occasion. After a course of roast beef, mutton, plum pudding, etc., had been partaken of, the cloth was removed, and the chair was taken by Mr. Josiah Rogers, who rose and proposed the health of their worthy and esteemed friend, Mr. Richard Ashcroft, who he was glad to say looked so well, and he hoped they would have many such gatherings on future occasions, and that they would ring together in the same friendly spirit as they had met in on the present occasion.

Mr. Ashcroft thanked all present for their kindness. The handbells were brought out, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and tunes were gone through, also songs were rendered. During the evening a date touch was also rung on the tower bells, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Walton, 1; H. Eaton, 2; J. Barratt, 3; T. Yates (conductor), 4: J. Grimshaw, 5; J. Rogers, 6; A. Egginton, 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The Second Annual Dinner of the St. Stephen's society took place at the Victoria Restaurant, on Saturday, February 18th, 1888. The Rev. W. M. Sinclair (vicar) took the chair in the unavoidable absence of W. A. B. Burdett-Coutts, M.P. Twenty-four sat down to a well served dinner, which did credit to host Cloots, and done ample justice to by the company. After the cloth was removed Mr. Burdett-Coutts arrived, and occupied the chair, and the Rev. W. M. Sinclair the vice-chair. The usual toast of "The Queen and the Royal Family" was proposed by the Rev. W. M. Sinclair, and heartily responded to by the members, after which a song, entitled "Our Captain," was well rendered by Mr. W. J. Gohns. "The health of the President and Vice President" was then proposed by Mr. T. R. Bell (secretary), who gave a short account of the proceedings of the society during the past twelve months. The toast was drunk with musical honours, the Rev. W. M. Sinclair (president) responding. Mr. J. Prior then sang "The Powder Monkey." Mr. J. Isaacson proposed "The St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society," coupling with it the names of Mr. J. M. Hayes (instructor), and Mr. T. R. Bell (secretary), and which was responded to by Mr. J. M. Hayes. A short touch of Grandsire Triples was then rang on the handbells by Messrs. H. R. Newton, 1-2; J. M. Hayes, 3-4; G. T. McLanghlin, 5-6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7-8. Mr. Lamb (steeple-keeper), proposed "The healths of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman," to which W. A. B. Burdett-Coutts, Esq., M.P., responded with an interesting and amusing speech. Mr. J. Reed then followed with the song "Down by the river side." W. A. Burdett-Coutts, Esq., M.P., proposed "The health of the Visitors," which was responded to by Mr. G. T. McLaughiin. Another touch was then rung on the handbells by Messrs. J. Willshire, 1-2; H. R. Newton, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; T. R. Bell, 7-8. After which Mr. H. Burgess sang "They all love Jack." At this stage the visitors left after wishing everyone good night. It being still early Mr. J. M. Hayes was elected chairman, and Mr. H. Burgess vice-chairman, and some very good singing followed, including "A jolly Farmer's Son" by Mr. E. Duff, "Queen of my heart" by Mr. J. Pryor, "Jack's Yarn," by Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, and "Sailing" by Mr. H. R. Newton, &c. After spending a very enjoyable evening the proceedings finished up with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen."

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday evening, February 4th, the Walton handbell ringers gave their second free entertainment of the season, in the Boy's Schoolroom. The room was filled to its utmost capacity, every portion of the building being crowded. The chair was takeu at 8 o'clock by Mr. J. Wright, and Miss Bennett acted as accompanist. Songs were rendered by Miss Millen, Miss Evans and Miss Morrison, and also by Messrs. Law, Pendleton, and A. E. Williams. Mr. Jones gave two violin solos, and a recitation by Miss Evans, entitled "The Gambler's Wife," was given with such good effect as to meet with the approbation of all present. Mr. F. D. Williams was vociferously applauded for the able manner in which he sang "Quite English you know," and in response to an encore sang "The Twins." The handbell ringers played a selection of various airs, and the outburst of applause which greeted the performers shewed that the performance was highly appreciated, and in demand for an encore, played a selection of popular airs. The members present were Messrs. Wilson (conductor), Nightingale. Rodgers, Roberts, Law, Barnes, Hughes and Milllen. The above selections were specially arranged for the Walton handbell ringers by Mr. C. E. Wilson, who takes great interest in all matters connected with ringing. "Brannigan's Band," by Messrs. Pendleton, Nightingale, Kelly, Law, Sargent, and F. D. Williams, created great fun, and the singing of the National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening's entertainment to a close.

OFFERS wanted for a complete set of "The Bell News" (unbound), quite clean commencing with No. 1, Vol. 1, up to present date. Address—John R. Pritchard, 40, Lowther Street, Liverpool.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—William Pollard and Co., Printers, Exeter

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE Fifth Annual Supper to the ringers and choirs, and other officials connected wth the parish church, took place on Friday evening, February 10th, in the Drill Hall, which was prettily decorated with flags, etc., for the occasion. As usual, the bells were rung for an hour previous. Over 70 sat down to the capital hot supper provided. At the table were the Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot), the Rev. W. R. Morse, Messrs. W. Davis and H. J. Russ, Churchwardens; Mr. Head, Organist, and several of the sidesmen. The toasts of "the Queen," "the Ringers," "the Choirs," "the Vicar," "the Churchwardens and Sidesmen," were proposed and duly honoured.

In replying to the toast of the Vicar, the Archdeacon pointed pointed out how much he and the parishioners were indebted to Mr. Head and the ringers and choirs for the voluntary work performed by them. It was most gratifying to him to know that they had such an efficient organist and choir, and that their belfry was so well conducted. He complimented Mr. Weston on the satisfactory manner in which he managed the new carillon machine, and thanked Mr. Dennes (belfry sidesman) for his services in connection with bells and belfry.

Mr. W. DAVIS said what a pleasure it was to the townsfolk to hear the chimes from their old church tower once more. He felt sure Mr. Woolston's Jubilee gift was a source of enjoyment to the inhabitants generally.

Mr. W. J. HENRY, in giving the toast of the ringers, spoke of the good quality of the ringing and chiming. He knew little of campanology, but what he had learnt had interested him very much indeed.

Mr. E. J. DENNES, in responding for the ringers, said that the encouragement they received from Vicar, churchwardens, and parishioners, was most cheering. They tried their best to give satisfaction, and the churchwardens might rest assured that every care would be taken of the valuable bells and fittings committed to their charge. Mr. Turnell, their steeple-keeper, kept everything in good order in the bell-chamber. Mr. Weston, on the next floor, made their old clock go well, and gave every attention to the new chimes. In Mr. Ette, deputy conductor, and Mr. Wood, timekeeper, he had two efficient helpers. There were now eighteen men connected with the belfry, ranging in age from 18 to 84. They had made some progress in change-ringing during the year, having rung some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, which had not been rung by a local band for some thirty years. In conclusion he begged leave to prrpose the health of their two veteran ringers, John Harley and John Youle.

Songs from several of the choirmen and others, and changes and tunes on the handbells by the ringers, passed the time away most pleasantly. Hearty votes of thanks were awarded to the collectors and to Mr. J. T. Smith (sidesman), who had the entire management of the supper, which was pronounced quite a success. Some regret was expressed that so few of the sidesmen were present. The party broke up at midnight, concluding with the National Anthem.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, March 3rd, at six o'clock, in the King Street schoolroom, Dudley. The Rev. Dr. Cosens, Vicar and Rural Dean, will preside. The tower of St. Thomas's will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Business: To arrange time and place of Annual Meeting, and to draw out report for past year.

37 *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.* J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

The 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year on Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of Stedman Caters by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the Annual Dinner will take place at "The Horse Shoes." All ringing friends who wish to attend will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE February meeting of the above Association was held at the Lambton Arms, Chester-le-Street, on Monday, February 13th, when nearly thirty members attended. At the committee meeting held previous to the usual dinner, the question of sending an instructor to Hexham came up for consideration, and it was decided to continue the instruction at the cost of the Association. It was also resolved to pay the expense of sending an instructor to Chester-le-Street during the past year out of the funds of the Association. Subsequently the members sat down to a substantial dinner, the Rev. Canon Blunt, rector of Chester-le-Street, occupying the chair, and Mr. F. Lees, of Newcastle, vice-president of the Association, the vice-chair. The Rev. T. Bennett (Newton Hall), and the Rev. F. Ball (curate of Chester-le-Street), were also present. The following towns were represented: Durham, Newcastle, Ripon, Stockton, Consett, Shotley Bridge, Jarrow, Chester-le-Street, and South Shields. After the tables had been cleared,

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Health of the Queen." Though they could not say Her Majesty was exactly president of the society, she was indirectly a patron of all good Associations throughout the kingdom. She had shown her interest in bell-ringing by presenting a peal to a poor east-end parish in London, which no doubt gave many cheering notes and tones of joy to the sorrowing hearts who heard them.

The toast having been enthusiastically received,

The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed "The Bishop of the two dioceses, Canon Blunt and the Rev. T. Bennett."

The Rev. Canon BLUNT, in ressonding on behalf of the Bishop and the clergy, thanked them heartily for the manner in which they had received the toast. He was very glad indeed to welcome the Association to Chester-le-Street, where, he was glad to say, the ringers had rung a 720 during the year. The church had lately been most efficiently added to by a new peal of bells; in connection with that he remembered that when the old tenor was broken and re-cast, they brought it back to Chester-le-Street and paid £38 for the re-casting, and £6 for beer; he was inclined to think that the days of such dreadful extravagance had passed away, for their new bells were brought home without such disgraceful proceedings as characterised the advent of the old ones. He thought they must look forward to the time when the new change method should be introduced at Durham Cathedral, for when Chester-le-Street was showing the way, it was time the senior Cathedral took the matter up.

Mr. G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Secretary, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said he was one of those who, as a clergyman of the diocese, was by no means satisfied with the idea that the most inferior kind of ringing that could possibly be called such, should be in operation at the Cathedral, when such rapid progress was being made in this respect by the parish churches.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to the vote of thanks, said he wished he was able to ring himself, and hoped in future to give more time to the task. He was desirous that they might get some good change-ringing at the Cathedral, and hoped those in authority there would see their way clear to introduce it.

The following were elected members of the Association: Bishopwearmouth parish church—R. Watson, J. Cook, G. Lawden, J. Oxbury, W. Fmlay, J. Kinghorn, T. Thompson, W. Hunter, E. Adaik, R. Collinson, J. Field, H. Dawson, R. Langton, and J. Todd; Middlesbrough—J. E. Edwards; Shotley Bridge—Mr. Gibson; Winlaton—T. Finney; Bishopwearmouth—T. Hudson; South Shields—J. Crawford; Chester-le-Street—R. Coxon; Shotley Bridge—L. Dobson.

During the day 720 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung, and the members occupied the remainder of the afternoon in trying the excellent peal of bells at the parish church.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER DISTRICT.

A RINGING MEETING in connection with the above will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at St. Mark's, Worsley (eight bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting in the schoolroom at 7.30 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited.

JOHN E. POLLITT, *Local Sec.*

THREE DATE TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2	–	1	2
6 2 3 4 5	1	–	2	
2 5 3 4 6	2	–	1	2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	1	2

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 3 5 6 4	2		2	1
3 2 4 6 5	2			2
6 4 2 3 5			2	2
2 5 3 4 6	2	–	2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	2	2

Each of the foregoing touches contain the 6-5's and 5-6's; in addition to this the first given contains the 6-4's and 4-6's, and both are attained without the 2nd or 3rd being in 6th's place at a course end.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 2 5 3 4		–	2	2
4 6 3 2 5	2	–	1	2
5 4 2 6 3	2		1	2
3 5 6 4 2	2		1	2
2 3 4 5 6	2		1	2

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR.

5184.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmiugham.*

1 2 3 4 5	1	0
5 4 3 1 2	S	–
2 3 1 5 4	–	–
4 1 5 2 3	–	–
3 5 2 4 1	–	–
1 3 2 4 5		–
2 3 4 1 5	–	
5 4 1 2 3	–	–
3 1 2 5 4	–	–
4 2 5 3 1	–	–
1 5 3 4 2	–	–
2 1 3 4 5		–
5 3 4 2 1	–	–
1 5 4 2 3		–
3 4 2 1 5	–	–
5 2 1 3 4	–	–
4 1 3 5 2	–	–
2 4 3 5 1		–
1 2 3 5 4		–

Five times repeated.

Bob for a single at the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th parts.

5096.

Omitting the last two courses and calling a bob at home.

5088.

Omitting the last three bobs in the last part.

5000.

Omitting the last three bobs in any one of the first five parts, and also the last two courses in the 5th part, and adding a bob at home.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5125.

By HENRY JOHNSON, *Birmingham.*

1 2 3 4 5 6	5	16
5 3 2 6 4 1*		
2 1 3 4 6 5†		
2 1 5 3 6 4		–
5 1 2 4 6 3	–	–
5 1 3 2 6 4		–
5 1 4 3 6 2		–
4 1 5 2 6 3	–	–
4 1 3 5 6 2		–
3 1 4 2 6 5	–	–
3 1 5 4 6 2		–
3 1 2 5 6 4		–
3 1 2 4 6 5	S	–
3 1 5 2 6 4		–
3 1 4 5 6 2		–
4 1 3 2 6 5	–	–
4 1 5 3 6 2		–
5 1 4 2 6 3	–	–
5 1 3 4 6 2		–
5 1 2 3 6 4		–
2 1 5 4 6 3	–	–
2 1 3 5 6 4		–
2 1 4 3 6 5		–
4 1 2 5 6 3	–	–
2 1 4 5 6 3‡		
2 1 3 4 6 5		–
2 1 5 3 6 4		–
5 1 2 4 6 3	–	–
5 1 3 2 6 4		–
3 1 5 4 6 2	–	–
3 1 2 5 6 4		–
3 1 4 2 6 5		–
4 1 3 5 6 2	–	–
4 1 2 3 6 5		–
4 1 5 2 6 3		–
5 1 4 3 6 2	–	–
5 1 4 2 6 3	S	–
5 1 3 4 6 2		–
5 1 2 3 6 4		–
2 1 5 4 6 3	–	–
2 1 3 5 6 4		–
3 1 2 4 6 5	–	–
3 1 5 2 6 4		–
3 1 4 5 6 2		–
4 1 3 2 6 5	–	–
4 1 5 3 6 2		–
4 1 2 5 6 3		–
2 1 4 3 6 5	–	–

Round at next change.

* Produced by bobs at 1, 3, 8, 12, 16, 21.

† Produced by bobs at 1, 3, 8. 12, 17, 21.

‡ Produced by bobs at 2, 5, 8, 9, 15, 16.

Rung on handbells at Birmingham, on Wednesday, February 15th, 1888. Conducted by Bernard Witchell.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By W. T. PATES, *Cheltenham.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	5	6
4 2 6 3 5		–	
2 6 4 3 5			–
6 4 2 3 5			–
3 2 4 6 5	–		–
2 4 3 6 5			–
4 3 2 6 5			–
6 2 3 4 5	–		–
2 3 6 4 5			–

Five times repeated.

Single at six in the fifth course of the first and fourth parts.

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place at a course-end.

A DATE TOUCH OF UNION TRIPLES.

1888.

By HENRY JOHNSON, *Birmingham.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
2 1 3 5 4 7 6	
2 3 1 4 5 6 7	
3 2 4 1 6 5 7	
3 4 2 6 1 7 5	
4 3 6 2 7 1 5	
4 6 3 7 2 1 5	
6 4 7 3 1 2 5	
6 7 4 1 3 5 2	
7 6 1 4 5 3 2	
7 1 6 5 4 2 3	SINGLE
1 7 6 4 5 3 2	
1 7 6 5 4 2 3	

For the first treble lead. Then:—

7 4 2 3 6 5	
7 3 6 5 4 2	
2 5 7 4 3 6	B
2 4 3 6 5 7	
7 6 2 5 4 3	B
3 5 7 4 6 2	B
3 4 6 2 5 7	
3 2 5 7 4 6	
6 7 3 4 2 5	B
6 4 2 5 7 3	
6 5 7 2 4 3	
2 3 6 4 5 7	B
2 4 5 7 3 6	
6 7 2 3 4 5	B
6 3 4 5 7 2	
6 5 7 2 3 4	
6 2 3 4 5 7	
6 4 5 7 2 3	
3 7 6 2 4 5	B
3 2 4 5 7 6	

Then thus:—

	1	2	3	7
4 2 5 3 7 6	–	–		
5 2 3 4 7 6	–	–		
2 5 3 4 6 7			–	–
3 5 4 2 6 7	–	–		
4 5 2 3 6 7	–	–		
5 4 2 3 7 6			–	–
2 4 3 5 7 6	–	–		
3 4 5 2 7 6	–	–		
4 3 5 2 6 7			–	–
5 3 4 2 7 6			–	–
4 3 2 5 7 6	–	–		
3 4 2 5 6 7			–	–
2 4 5 3 6 7	–	–		
5 4 3 2 6 7	–	–		
4 5 3 2 7 6			–	–
3 5 2 4 7 6	–	–		
2 5 4 3 7 6	–	–		
5 2 4 3 6 7			–	–
4 2 3 5 6 7	–	–		
3 2 5 4 6 7	–	–		
2 3 5 4 7 6			–	–
5 3 2 4 6 7			–	
2 3 4 5 6 7	–	–		

The above contains the twenty four 6-7's.

Mr. Price's peal of London Surprise is false.

Mr. Washbrook's long peal of Superlative, Burton variation, is false.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

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All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—Your letter is well-meant, of course, but its publication would do more harm than good among those whose proceedings you criticise. If you take notice, you will see that some limit is being put to the publication of the matters you ridicule.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1888.

THE day has arrived when references as to what the moral character of ringers used to be may well be left alone. No doubt in the dark ages of ringing annals, individuals who regarded themselves as "the" parochial ringers were to be met with whose character for sobriety, or it may be, strict morality, would not bear the strictest investigation. But, speaking generally, can it be doubted that such people have met their doom? The gradual change for the better which has taken place in belfries has necessitated the total effacement of these people, or at any rate their permanent reform, and acquirement of habits which are not looked upon with disapproval. The agitator for belfry reform of a half-a-century ago would certainly look with infinite satisfaction upon the change for the better which has been wrought within the past few years. True there is yet something to do in the same direction. It would be possible no doubt, had we a map of England before us, to point out spots here and there far from the standard of excellence desired. But continual references to evils which are said to have flourished in the past, seem to us to have no ameliorating effects upon such places. The constant reiteration of what is said to have been the state of change-ringers and ringing before such and such an event happened, or before any particular individual called attention to it, does in our opinion very little enhance its progress in the present day. If ringers of a past age were such pests of society, let us be charitable, and seek not to analyse their failings in the light of an educational age. Better by far to look around and see the plague-spots in our own time, in fact under our very noses, with attempts for their removal or rectification, than indulge in platitudes upon the acts of men who in their day knew no better, and for whom little care was exercised by their spiritual pastors and masters. A salutary change has been effected, and we know it. Let us therefore, not rest content, but be thankful all the same, and instead of continually harping upon what once was, direct our energies to a reform of that solid and sweeping character which will carry every other needful reform with it.

The greatest drawback to the spread of change-ringing is the deplorable fact that so many rings of bells are in such a state of decay. This is not overstating the case; it is in truth putting it mildly. We have only to read the pages of this number of our paper for an instance in point. In a speech at a meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Association, the Rev. CANON BLUNT appears to have sighed for the time when real ringing should be heard at the noble Cathedral of Durham; and the Hon. Secretary of the same Association, who followed the Canon, seemed to be disgusted at the supineness which the Cathedral authorities have displayed, especially after the continued representations which have been made to them with a view not to "ringers' reform," but to the reform of their own bell-chamber and ringing-room. It is this neglect by the clergy which is the cause, where it really does exist, of the union between the belfry and beer; *e.g.*, let the blame not rest upon the shoulders of those who have acted according to their lights, but upon those whose duty it was to teach them better, to insist upon their reformation, and who failed in such duty. Is there at this day no parish where such blame cannot be imputed to the clergy and church authorities? Too many, we are sure.

The position at Durham Cathedral we have animadverted upon more than once before. There is no opportunity afforded of calling up the old-fashioned bogey of corrupt ringers here, because, we believe, there is no acknowledged society. It is the apathy of the capitular body, which allows the perpetuation of a state of things which is a crying disgrace to one of England's noblest shrines, where the blame is to be laid. There may be no resources available by which the reform we are alluding to could be secured, yet it is not impertinent to suggest that the present Dean and Chapter could very well spare for this purpose a moiety of their liberal stipends if their inclinations and will were agreeable.

It is such reform as this that efforts both in word and deed should be directed. Let the past be done with, and its bad side, whatever it was, hidden. The parading of past weakness is very little use in arguing for the present or future. We don't hear much about the former ill-doings of grave-diggers, sextons, or parish clerks, why then should the bell-ringer be the object of obloquy? Comparisons are no doubt well meant, but they are said to be odious. Let us abandon our favorite rehearsal of what ringers were, and look with pride upon what they are now, and condemn in as strong language as possible the apathy which condemns them in many cases to remain in a state of squalid indifference regarding the proper and interesting uses to which bells may be put.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at St. Lawrence Church, Chorley, on Saturday, February 18th, by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. E. G. James). Shortly after 2 o'clock members began to arrive from Preston, Leyland parish, Leyland St. James, Standish, Blackrod, and Chorley. During the afternoon and evening several 720's of Bob Minor and other touches were rung. At 5 o'clock the members assembled in the vestry, where the usual business was gone through, it being unanimously agreed to hold the annual meeting on Whit Saturday, at Leyland. A vote of thanks to the rev. gentleman brought the meeting to a close.

HARRIS ORPHANAGE, PRESTON.

A large clock with Cambridge quarter chimes, has just been completed upon this building by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It shews the time upon four dials, each five feet across, and is fitted with all the latest improvements. All the wheels have had their teeth cut from the solid, and the pinions are of hardened steel. The pendulum has a one hundred weight bob.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, *in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM COOTER	*Treble.*	ISAAC G. SHADE	5.
CHARLES BEECH..	2.	WALTER PRIME..	6.
JOHN BONNEY	3.	MATTHEW A. WOOD ..	7.
WILLIAM CECIL	4.	JAMES MONDAY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM COOTER.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 42nd anniversary of the first peal together of Messrs. Cooter and Wood.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S (WESTMINSTER) SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, *in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

J. PRYOR*	*Treble.*	GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	5.
H. R. NEWTON	2.	H. S. ELLIS	6.
J. N. OXBORROW	3.	J. M. HAYES	7.
J. WILLSHIRE	4.	W. CROPLEY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by J. N. OXBORROW.

* First peal.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 20, 1888, *in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JAMES PETTIT	*Treble.*	EDWIN WALLAGE	5.
WILLIAM TANNER	2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE	6.
NEWMAN N. HILLS*	3.	*WALTER BATTLE	7.
HENRY SPRINGALL	4.	EDWIN HORREX..	*Tenor.*

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, of Birmingham, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal in the method. Messrs N. N. Hills and W. Battle hail from St. Albans; the rest from London.

The Provinces.

GARSTON, LANCASHIRE.—THE GARSTON YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

SAMUEL GOUGH	*Treble.*	JOHN ALLEN	5.
G. F. SHARROCK..	2.	CHARLES NEWTON	6.
ARTHUR JONES	3.	FRANK TURNER..	7.
WILLIAM WEAVER	4.	PETER ROBERTS	*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by FRANK TURNER.

The above was rung to commemorate the 34th anniversary of the conductor's service in the royal regiment of artillery, and is the first peal of Triples in the method by all, and the first in the method on the bells.

CRANHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday, February 9, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 9 cwt.

E. PRICE	*Treble.*	H. DOWNHAM	4.
E. SMART	2.	W. GREGORY	5.
F. HANNIS	3.	G. PRICE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. GREGORY.

All the above hail from Brockworth. The above 6-scores were each called differently.

ROTHERHAM.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 14, 1888 *in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE BRIGGS..	*Treble.*	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY	6.
CHARLES BOWER	2.	JOHN HALE	7.
WALTER COATES	3.	TOM LEE	8.
JOB ATHEY	4.	ALFRED RODGERS	9.
THOMAS WHITWORTH ..	5.	WILLIAM HURST	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal, which is composed on a new plan, has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, with the treble in 2nds place, and 9 7 8 at the course-ends, and was probably rung as being the farewell peal of Job Athey. Another account in connection with the above will be found on another page.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Shrove Tuesday, February 14, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25¾ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT	*Treble.*	JAMES SCHOLICAR	5.
WM. J. TAYLOR	2.	JAS SHARPLES	6.
WM. B. LLOYD	3.	GEO. PRESCOTT..	7.
JOHN ASPINWALL..	4.	PETER H. HARVEY ..	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAS. SCHOLICAR.

Rung on the 111th anniversary of the first record of change-ringing at Ormskirk, which was a quarter-peal of Grand-ire Triples, rung on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 1777, by the first band of ringers at the Parish Church.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, February 15, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,*

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. HY. JAMES, THE "RING OF BELLS INN,"

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5125 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 size in C.

THOMAS RUSSAM*	1-2.	THOMAS MILLER	5-6.
WILLIAM KENT	3-4.	B. WITCHELL	7-8.
HY. JOHNSON, JUN.	9-10.		

Composed by HY. JOHNSON, SEN and Conducted by B. WITCHELL.

*First peal on handbells in the method. First peal as conductor in the method. Messrs C. Stanbridge, Godden, and Jackson referees. The above peal contains the 6th twenty-two courses behind the 9th and twenty-four courses behind the 8th, and is the longest length in the method and supposed to be the fourth peal in the method rung on handbells.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 16, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT	*Treble.*	*FELIX KNIGHT	5.
WALTER CHARMAN*	2.	HARRY COOK	6.
GEORGE CHARMAN*	3.	HENRY CHANDLER	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	GEORGE WOODMAN ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

The above Society beg to announce their intention of holding the usual public dinner on Tuesday, February 28th, 1888, at "The Woolpack" Hotel, Birmingham, directly opposite the Church. Ringers who intend to be present are invited to signify the same to the undersigned not later than Friday, February 24th. Dinner on the table at 6 p.m. Tickets three shillings each. A peal of Stedman Cinques will be attempted at noon. Ringers from a distance wishing to take part in the same, are asked to forward their names not later than Tuesday, February 21st, as the band will be selected on that evening.

Wheeley's Road, Birmingham. A. THOMAS, *Hon. Sec.*

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

JOSEPH PRESCOTT ..	..*Treble.*	GEORGE B. WALKER ..	5.
EDMUND PRESCOTT* ..	.. 2.	JOHN E. GUMMERSON ..	6.
EDWARD PRESCOTT ..	.. 3.	EDWARD ARROWSMITH ..	7.
SAMUEL C. C. TURNER ..	4.	*WILLIAM GREGORY ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

*First peal. Messrs Edmund and Joseph Prescott hail from Hindley; Messrs Edward Prescott, E. Arrowsmith, and W. Gregory hails from Leigh; Messrs. S. Turner, G. Walker, G. Gummerson hails from Wigan. Edward Arrowsmith rang the tenor in the opening peal twenty-one years ago. This peal was rung on the twenty-first anniversary of the opening of the bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in F♯.

WILLIAM H. GODDEN* ..	..*Treble.*	JOHN CARTER	5.
HENRY BASTABLE	2.	FRANK H. JAMES	6.
CHARLES CARMELL	3.	GEORGE BOURNE	7.
JAMES JONES	4.	JOHN WARD	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

*First peal. This was rung as a friendly peal to commemorate the 60th birthday of the tower-keeper, Mr. F. H. James.

SHIPLEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, *in Three Hours and Three and ½ Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

J. H. HARDCASTLE ..	..*Treble.*	W. WILKS	5.
G. A. O. NETTLETON ..	2.	T. POLLITT	6.
H. RAISTRICK	3.	B F. LAMB	7.
S. H. LONDON	4.	F. LONDON	..*Tenor.*

Composed by T. POLLITT and Conducted by F. LONDON.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, will be found on page 434 of "THE BELL NEWS." Messrs. Hardcastle, Raistrick, Pollitt, and Lamb hail from Bradford; S. H. London from Saltaire; and the rest belong to the Shipley company.

HUNTLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday, February 19, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

W. WILLIAMS	..*Treble.*	C. TURNER..	4.
M. HAILE	2.	H. BRAWN	5.
H. ANCILL	3.	J. DOBBINS..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by H. BRAWN.

The above peal is the first performance of the kind on the bells by the local company.

Date Touches.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 5th, at St Paulinus' church, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, for evening service. L. Hammond, 1; W. T. Cook, 2; T. Saxby, 3; E. Saxby, 4; G. Conyard, 5; F. French, 6; J. Garard, 7; W Saxby, 8. Time 1 hr. 7 mins. Composed by J. Carter, and conducted by J. Saxby.

LINDLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, February 12th, at the parish church, assisted by Mr. Stanethorpe, of Birstall, a date touch of Kent Treble Major, with all sixth place bobs, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; A. Sykes, 3; G. W. Schofield, 4; —. Stanethorpe, 5; B. Shaw, 6; C. W. Clegg, 7; F. Schofield (composer and conductor), 8.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, February 12th previous to Divine Service, the local company rang a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2, William Ryland, 3; William Hale (composer and conductor), 4; J Wager, 5; D. Marment, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. This is the longest touch by a local band for about twenty years. All ringers will be welcome any Monday evening at 7 o'clock. If a complete band can have use of bells. Tenor 28 cwt.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 14th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, by a mixed band, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 20 mins. *H. Symonds (Preston), 1; *W. Hollocks (Preston), 2; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 3; H. Duce (Melford), 4; *H. Smith (Lavenham), 5; *W. Snell (Preston), 6; A. Symnnds (Lavenham), 7; *W. Moore (Lavenham), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. *Longest touch of Major.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, February 12th, for Divine Service at the parish church in the evening, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Broom, 1; *W. Cook, 2; F. Ring, 3; G. Hayes, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. *First in the method with a bob bell, who hails from Crayford.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—Recently at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. W. Louth, 1; J. Allen, 2; C. Waterman, 3; B. Spunner, 4; H. D. Davis (conductor), 5; F. Hayes, 6.

SHELDWICH NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Monday, February 13th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Castle, 1; G. A. Ransome, 2; R. Annesley, 3: W. Boulden, 4; F. Harris, 5; T. Hooker (conductor), 6.

BOUGHTON (Kent).—On Monday, February 13th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 25 mins. W. Hope, 1; R. Castle, 2; G. A. Ransome, 3; W. Boulden, 4; F. Harris, 5; T. Hooker (conductor), 6. T. Hooker hails from Hastingleigh, the others belong to the local company.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Monday, February 13th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 35 mins. J. R. Weldon (Newcastle-on-Tyne), 1; C. J. Routledge (Newcastle), 2: F. Clark (Ripon), 3; T. Waller (Stockton), 4; F. Lees (Newcastle), 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 33 mins. C. Routledge (conductor), 1; J. Spraggon (Shotley Bridge), 2; F. Barron (Shotley Bridge), 3; W. R. Routledge (Newcastle), 4; C, J. Butterworth (Durham), 5; F. Lees (Newcastle), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob on handbells. A. Thompson, 1; J. Swinburn, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3-4; F. Lees (conductor), 5-6. Also 720 Plain Bob. R. Wilkinson, 1; R. English, 2; W. Brown, 3; C. J. Butterworth, 4; J. Swinburn, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY.—On Tuesday, Feb. 14th, at the Abbey, a date touch of 1888 Union Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; C. W. Dyson, 5; T. Devereaux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7: W. Haines, 8.

STROUD (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, February 11th, at the parish church, the local company assisted by Mr. A. J. Gwinnett, of Painswick, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a last mark of esteem to Mr. Henry Holloway, brother to Mr. George Holloway, M.P., who was interred at Stroud on that day, aged 60 years. A. Trigg, 1; J. Nash, 2; A, J. Gwinnett, 3; C. King, 4; G. Latham (conductor), 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

COSELEY (Staffordshire).—On Friday evening, February 10th, at Christ Church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. William Pardoe, 1; Edward Goodreds, 2; Harry Mills, 3; Adam Hill, 4; William R. Small, 5; John Goodman (conductor), 6. Goodman hails from Dudley; the rest from Tipton. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBENHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 28th, at the parish church of St. Mary, eight members of the above Association attempted Cox's peal of 5024 Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 3722 changes, in 2 hrs. 29 mins., it suddenly came to grief through the treble rope breaking. J. Heffer, jun., 1; G. Perry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 7; A. S. Wightman, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, January 24th, for practice, 360 Plain Bob, 720 College Single, and 120 Stedman

Doubles. On Sunday, January 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, 240 Stedman Doubles. For evening service, 240 Double Court. After service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. On Tuesday evening, January 31st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. On Sunday morning, February 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. For evening service, 360 Oxford Bob. After service, 720 College Single. On Tuesday evening, February 7th, for practice, 360 Plain Bob, 360 Yorkshire Court, 360 College Single, and 60 Plain Bob. On Sunday morning, February 12th for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 240 Stedman Doubles. For evening service, 720 Plain Bob. The following ringers took part in the above: Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, H. Smith, J. Hands, G. Essex, E. Pottinger, E. Menday, H. Simmonds, F. Simmonds, and C. Parfitt. The above was conducted by T. Newman. Tenor 17 cwt. On Tuesday evening, February 14th, in 1 hr. 20 mins., at the parish church, 2520 changes in seven different methods, being a 360 each of the following: Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Yorkshire Court, College Single, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; H. Smith 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Thursday, February 2nd, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 49 mins. On Saturday, February 4th, a meeting was arranged for a peal of Bob Triples, but after ringing 46 mins. the attempt *failed, and a half-peal (2520 changes), was rung.* W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. Wilder, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8. Tenor 9½ cwt. Thursday, February 9th, touches of Bob Minor and Triples were rung with Messrs. Leader and Perryman at treble and tenor. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. *R. Flaxman, 1; *T. Udell, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; *A. Andrews, 4; *W. Wilder, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. *First 720 in the method. Those who took part in the foregoing touches of Bob Triples began to practise the method early in January. All are members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths with one exception.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, February 9th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). H. Chapman, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Keech (first 720 in the method inside), 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. Pass, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6. And on Sunday evening, February 12th, at St. Paul's church, for Divine Service, 518 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. F. Smith (first touch of Triples), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. R. Howard (first touch in the method inside), 3; F. Keech, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, February 19th, at St. James's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). A. Ingram, 1; H. Chapman, 2; C. West, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor about 14 cwt. in G.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, February 6th, at St. Peter's church, 350 Grandsire Triples. J. Hewett, 1; F. Hill, 2; G Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; J. Jeffery, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 19th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. L. Bumpstead, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also 360 Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; *H. E. Hammond, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. L. Bumpstead, 5; F. Rudkin, 6. *First touch in the method.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Sunday, February 12th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Lawrence, the local company rang a touch of Grandsire Triples. R. Bennett, 1; W. Bennett, 2; F. White, 3; E. Holifield, 4; S. White, 5, G. Holifield (conductor), 6; H. Woodwards, †J. White, 8. †First touch.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, Febrnary 14th, at Christ Church, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. Thomas Higham, 1; John Taylor, 2; James Leatherbarrow, 3; George Larkey, 4; William Fairclough (conductor), 5; Henry Cave (aged 64 years) 6; Peter Fairhurst, 7; Thomas Gardner, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 12th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Robinson, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; †F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor, J. Poplett ringing the treble, the others standing as before. †First in the method. And on Tuesday, February 14th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Robinson, 1; *J. Poplett, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also 360 Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs and twelve singles), with F. Bridger on the second.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday evening, February 10th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). *A. Ingram, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. Chapman, 4; C. West, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. *First 720 and first attempt. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *F. Hall, 1; C. West, 2; I. Hills, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; †C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman, 6. *First 720 and first attempt; †first 720 in the method. Also several six-scores of Grandsire and Plain Bob, in which Messrs. West, Clifton, F. Smith, and others took part. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CARLISLE.—On Sunday morning, February 12th, at St. Stephen's church, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. G. Little, 1; J. J. Patterson (conductor), 2; W. Gregson, 3; D. Harding, 4; J. Jefferson, 5; F. Gibson (first 720 as conductor), 6. [We hope to hear again from our friends here. ED.]

CHELVESTON-CUM-CALDECOT (Northants).—On Saturday, February 18th, at St. John-the-Baptist's church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. W. Pettit, 1; G. Heath, 2; A. Martin, 3; E. Chapman, 4; W. A. Hall, 5. And six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Heath, 1; W. A. Hall (conductor), 2; E. Chapman, 3; A. Martin, 4; G. Burton, 5. Also two seperate 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in which J. B. Martin and W. Pettit took part with a bob bell for the first time. An adjourment was then made to the "Star and Garter" inn, when a 360 of Plain Bob (four bobs and two singles), was rung on the handbells. W. A. Hall *(conductor), 1-2; E. Chapman, 3-4; A. Martin, 5-6.* Also a course of Grandsire Triples. A. Martin, 1-2; E. Chapman, 3-4; G. Heath, 5; G. Burton, 6; W. Hall, 7-8. During the evening some excellent songs were sung by E. Chapman, G. Heath, J. B. Martin, and other friends, and at the call of time the company had spent a very pleasant evening.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, February 19th, for Divine Service at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 28 mins. W. Tubb conductor), 1; F. Sparks, 2; T. Card, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; W. Mulloy, 6.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, February 14th, being the last practice night of the local company before Lent, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. C. E. Kelley, 1; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 2; J. Nicholls, 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; C. Porter, 5; J. W. Driver, 6; *S. Eales, 7; S. How, 8. *First quarter-peal.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 5th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. John Turner, 1; James Alexander, 2; Frank Turner, 3; William Weaver, 4; Thomas Morris, 5; Arthur Jones (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 12th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Turner, 1; James Alexander, 2; Charles Newton, 3; William Weaver, 4; Thomas Morris, 5; Frank Turner (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 Bob Minor in 25½ mins. James Alexander, 1; John Turner (age 15, first 720 on a bob bell), 2; Charles Newton, 3; William Weaver, 4; Thomas Morris, 5; Frank Turner (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 19th, a 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. John Turner, 1; Charles Newton, 2; Frank Turner, 3; William Weaver, 4; Thomas Morris, 5; Arthur Jones (conductor), 6.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—*Handbell Ringing.*—Recently at the residence of Mr. C. Perkins, 360 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and twelve singles). W Pettit, 1; A. Martin, 2; W. Parker, 3; E. Chapman, 4; *J. B. Martin, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. And 360 London Single. *S Middleton, 1; W Parker, 2; *J. B. Martin, 3; E. Chapman, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob. S Middleton, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; W. Parker, 3; W. Pettit, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; A. Martin (conductor), 6. And 360 Plain Bob. W. Pettit, 1, *G Brown, 2; W. Parker, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; E Chapman, 5; A Martin (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores Bob Doubles. W. Pettit, 1; A. Martin (conductor), 2; *J. B. Martin, 3; E. Chapman, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; S. Middleton, 6. *First in the method. W. A. Hall and E. Chapman hails from Rushden.

IGHTHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, Feb. 21st, at St. Peter's church, a 1.20 of Bob Doubles *John Webb, 1; The Rev. H. E. Polehampton, 2; *Frederick C. Webb, 3; George Moore, 4; F. Shoebridge, 5. *First 120.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Monday, February 6th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 6-score each of New Doubles, Stedman's Slow Course St Simon's, Place, Canterbury, Grandsire, and Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox (conductor), 3; E. Curtis, 4; G.

March, 5. *Handbell Ringing.*—At the house of Mr. F. Chapman, a six-score each of Bob Doubles, Canterbury, and St. Simon's. C. Swan, 1; W. Fox, 2; E. Curtis, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. W. Fox, 1; C. Swan, 2; E. Curtis, 3; R. Dunkley (conductor), 4-5; G. March, 6.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, February 12th, for Divine Service at St. Bartholomew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday Morning, February 5th, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; G. Winter, 8. Also for evening service, 224 in the same method, standing as before. On Saturday, February 11th, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; W. H. George (London, conductor), 5; T. Bates, 6; T. W. Chapman, 7; J. George (Coventry), 8. On Sunday, February 19th, for morning service, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Adler, 1; E. Swaine, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; J. Clarke, 5; T. W. Chapman, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; J. Ballard, 8. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a plain course of Bob Minor. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2: G. Winter, 3; T. W. Chapman, 4; T. Lingard 5; H. Horwood, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 12th, for Divine Service at the parish church, the local company rang 350 Grandsire Triples, with 9, 8, 10 covering. And on Monday evening, February 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8.

PETTISTREE.—On Saturday evening, February 18th, at the parish church, 360 Plain Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 360 Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Charles Potter, a member of the local company, who died after a distressing illness of twelve months, and who leaves a widow and five children to mourn their loss. F. Reeve, 1; E. Todd, 2; W. Reeve, 3; G. Beck, 4; J. Howard, 5; E. Sherwood (conductor), 6.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—*Handbell Ringiug.*—At the residence of Mr. E. Chapman, 360 College Single, and 360 College Little. C. Green, 1; G. Heath, 2; A. Martin, 3; *J. B. Martin, 4; E. Chapman, 5: W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. *First in the method. Credit is due to J. B. Martin as this is only his seventh week's work. Messrs. A. and J. B. Martin hail from Higham Ferrers.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, February 7th, a 1512 of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1-2; T Blackbourn (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. On Wednesday, February 15th, 720 Bob Major. A. P. Goddard, 1-2 T. Blackbourn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; A. W. Barkus, 7-8. On Thursday, February 16th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Wise (first 720), 1-2; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 3-4; A. W. Barkus, 5-6. On Friday, February 17th, three 720s of Bob Minor (each called differently), by the same band.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 7th, the local company met at All Saints' church, and rang 720 Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; S. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, 4; H. Brackett, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor 28 cwt. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, February 18th, the company who are precluded from ringing at two of the towers during Lent, met for handbell practice and rang a course of Stedman Triples. W. B. Ransom, 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; H. Harper, 7-8. Also a course of Bob Maximus. W. B. Ransom, 1-2; C, Sillitoe, 3-4; F. Tolliday, 5; W. Griggs, 6; M. Silvester, 7; H. Harper, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; A. Scott, 11-12. And on Tuesday, February 14th, at SS. Peter and Paul, Lavenham, 672 Grandsire Triples. A. Symonds (Lavenham), 1; F. Tolliday (Sudbury), 2; W. Griggs (Sudbury), 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 4; W. Howell (Sudbury), 5; E. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 6; F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 7; W. Moore (Lavenham), 8. Other touches were rung during the day by mixed bands, who happened to be in the town, this being the annual fair day.

SUTTON COLDFIELD (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, February 11th, a touch of 252 Stedman Triples, being the longest touch by the newly-formed Society except the conductor. T. Matthews, 1; C. Dicken, 2; A. Bradshaw, 3; G. Roberts, 4; A. Woodcroft, 5; W. Allsopp, 6; W. Kent (conductor) 7; W. Pearse, 8.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 12th, at Christ Church, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Freeman, 1; W. Smith, 2; E. Barnett, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; W. Lebbon (conductor), 6. Also after service, 720 in the same method. G. Cornell, 1; J. Nunn, 2; F. Freeman, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; J. Marks, 5; W. Lebbon, 6. On Tuesday, February 14th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Rann, 1; J. Nunn, 2; F. Freeman, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; G. Cornell, 5; W. Lebbon, 6.

WEST HAM (Essex).—At Holy Trinity church, Barking Road, on Sunday, February 12th, after evening service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently), in 25 mins. *W. Brown, 1; *W. H. Dalimore, 2; *Alf. White, 3; H. Randall, 4; Rev. A. S. Dowling, 5; Wm. Baldwin, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. Conducted by H. Randall. *First 6-score.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 29th, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. *Frederick Grocott, 1; *William Fitchford, 2; *Thomas Miller, 3; *Harvey Fitchford, 4; *Alfred Grocott, 5; Samuel Walker, 6; William Miller (conductor), 7; *William Slater, 8. Also for evening service, on Sunday, February 12th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 47 mins. Frederick Grocott, 1; William Fitchford, 2; Thomas Miller, 3; Harvey Fitchford, 4; Alfred Grocott, 5; Alfred Walker, 6; William Miller (conductor), 7; William Slater, 8. *First quarter-peal.

ALL SAINTS' GUILD, NEWCASTLE.

THE All Saints' Guild of bell-ringers, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are contemplating having a trip this summer; and for this purpose a social gathering was held in the school-room, on Wednesday evening last. There was a large attendance, about forty couple being present. Dancing was commenced about 7 o'clock, and was kept up till the small hours of the morning. Everyone enjoyed themselves and every credit is due to Messrs Brewis and Taylor (members of the Guild) for their efforts to make the gathering a social and financial success.

A VETERAN RINGER.—INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

On Shrove Tuesday the Mirfield (Yorkshire) society attempted a date touch to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Jesse Holt, of Northorpe, who entered upon his 83rd year on that day, having been born on the 14th of February, 1806. The old gentleman, who is hale and hearty, rung the treble, but the touch came to grief after more than 1700 changes had been rung. Mr. Holt began to ring in the year 1826. He rang at the Queen's coronation, and again at her jubilee last year. During his career he has assisted in winning forty-one prizes, on six and eight bells, and has rang several peals on eight and ten bells, one being on the new bells at St. Paul's, Eastthorpe, when he was in his 79th year. He has lived under four English sovereigns, viz.: the last two Georges, William IV., and Victoria. He has a distinct recollection of the battle of Waterloo, of the rejoicings which then took place in consequence, and of the beacon fires which were set ablaze in Dewsbury, Mirfield, and Huddersfield districts, in common with the rest of the country. He vividly remembers the agitation respecting the Corn Laws and their subsequent repeal; the passing of the first Reform Bill, the Chartist Riots, boiler tappings, and he has been an eye-witness also of collisions between the people and the military in Wakefield. We hope he may be spared many years to listen to the ringing upon his favorite bells.

THE "JAMES RUDD" FUND.

Mr. Ireland wishes to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following sums.

	s.	d.
Mr. C. H. Scriven, Oakley, Suffolk	2	6
Mr. E. Pemberton, Bury St. Edmunds	1	0
Mr. A. Osborne " "	1	0
A Friend, Norwich	1	0

The above fund is now closed, and a statement of its effects will be made in next week's paper.

THE LATE MR. JOHN BRAMALL.

On Sunday last, February 19th, at Norton Cemetery, near Sheffield, in the presence of a great number of people, the remains of the above gentleman were interred, and whose connection with the parish has extended to almost half a century. So highly was he respected and esteemed, that there is not a home in the district where his death is not lamented. For many years he conducted the evening church service in Woodseats Sunday School, and also evening services on weekdays in the villages of Bradway and Greenhill. His large-hearted sympathy endeared him to young and old, while his manner of imparting instruction has drawn towards him not only those who desired knowledge, but also the careless and ignorant. Such a loss as the parish has felt by his death is not easily replaced.

On Sunday evening last, a half-muffled peal was rung at St. James church, Norton, in memors of the above esteemed resident. A 720 Bob Minor was also rung in 29 mins. G. Oats, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Biggin, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Atkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE TWELVE COURSE-ENDS WITH THE 6TH AT HOME.

SIR,—In my letter published in your issue of last week I stated I could affirm with certainty that no other three or five-course touches in complete courses other than those which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 11th were possible, while the same was *apparently* true of the seven, nine, and eleven-course touches there given. I find however that the latter part of the statement is incorrect in as much as there is an alternative touch both of seven and nine courses, but I believe not of eleven. These additional touches can be obtained from the eleven-course touch by omitting for the seven-course touch both, and for the nine-course touch one, of the two sets of three consecutive similar bobs that therein occur. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Chaseley, Pendleton, Manchester, Feb. 20, 1888.

ANSWER TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—In looking over the comment on bell-ringing in the column of "Free Lance" he seems to doubt the time in ringing a peal of 5200 changes in 3 hrs. 12 mins. by the Mirfield company, with a tenor of 33cwt., 1qr., 22lbs., the conductor had the timepiece within eighteen inches of his sight, which he can vouch for giving the exact time in ringing the peal. We commenced in changes at 7.5, and brought the bells round at 10.17, which was heard by one of the company outside, and both were agreed as to the time. If "Free Lance" requires it the same number of changes can be rung again in the same time. The last 5000 at Mirfield was rung in 3 hrs. 10 mins. If your contributor would pay us a visit he would not doubt our statement.

J. PEACOCK.

A FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—To prevent all brother strings ringing a False Peal, I am sorry to say that the 5312 of Bob Major by me, published in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 22nd, 1887, is false; sorry to say it was rung as a 5088 by the Essex Association, at Bishops Stortford, on February 11th, 1888. H. J. TUCKER.

Bishops Stortford, Herts., February 22nd.

A PLAIN ANSWER.

SIR,—In answer to W. B., first I have to thank you for heading my answer to him, which I have no doubt you thought exactly as myself, it was a most appropriate heading, viz.: "A Plain Answer." I know W. B's name would not make a false touch true, but it would be more Englishman like, especially when he is asking for information. As W. B. answers his own query, what is it? If he is satisfied with his own conclusions I beg to differ from him. I don't profess to be one of the clever conductors; at the same time, if he requires the information respecting the 2520 Court Bob Triples rung at Spalding, if W. B. will forward me a prepaid envelope, with name and address, he shall have particulars, then he can publish it if he thinks well, as I have neither time nor inclination to enter into a controversy through "THE BELL NEWS," as it is not worth troubling on such a frivolous matter.

Halmer Cottage, Spalding. RICHARD MACKMAN.

ANSWER TO MR. BURSTOW.

SIR,—Will you kindly insert my thanks to Mr. Henry Burstow, for informing me my peal of Court Bob Triples was not the first time it had been rung. I had failed to notice report of his peal. I am sorry Mr. Burstow did not inform me the first week after publication, as I waited a week before I gave order for cards. RICHARD MACKMAN.

Halmer Cottage, Spalding.

WHOSE NEGLECT?

SIR,—Your readers will remember the objection made by the officers of the London St. James's Society to enter a peal in that society's peal-book, rung at S. Botolph, Bishopsgate, on the 19th of November last, because, as they stated, one of the band was not a member of the society. This ringer was a person named Bedwell. I just want to point out the carelessness of these officers in not objecting before, because the same person rang in no less than six peals previous to that date, all of which were published in our paper as S. James's peals. Why did they not object before. Perhaps the reason was that some of the Tottenham party was in the peal which they did object to. The sooner the main body of members of this society comes forward and ousts the present dictators the better. The St. James's Society has been too long the shuttlecock of one or two persons, whose greatest credit is their strength of lung. H. W. FREEMAN.

Church News.

The Rev. J. S. Holden, Aston Rectory, Derby, would be glad to communicate with clergy, with a view to the Bishop of Qu'Appelle preaching or speaking at meetings, on behalf of his work in Assiniboia (North-west Canada), during his visit to England next summer and autumn.

The Rev. George Atkinson, vicar of Raveustondale, Westmoreland, has placed his resignation in the hands of the Bishop of Carlisle. Mr. Atkinson is ninety-two years of age, and has held the appointment seventeen years, having been appointed when he was seventy-five years of age.

The Rev. F. V. Mather, St. Paul's, Clifton, and Mr. J. Walker, Westbourne House, Cheltenham, have been elected to represent the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol on the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

The Rev. H. Morden Bennett, whose secession to the Church of Kome was lately announced, is the younger son of the late vicar of St. Peter's, and brother of the present vicar of St. Stephen's, Bournemouth.

The first of the Lent lectures at St. Alphage, London-wall, was preached on Friday evening, February 17th, by Canon Elwyn, master of the Charterhouse, who selected for his text St. Matthew xxvi. 41, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation."

At St. Margaret Pattens, Rood-lane, an oratorio will be given at eight o'clock on Wednesday evenings in Lent, preceded by the Miserere and a short address. The programme is as follows —March 7th, Rossini's Stabat Mater; 14th, Spohr's Calvary, Part I.; 21st, ditto, Part II.; 28th, the Passion music from Handel's Messiah.

At St. Phillip's, Regent-street, the Sunday afternoon lectures in Lent will be delivered as follows:—February 26th and March 4th, the Rev. C. A. Row, Prebendary of St. Paul's, on "Religious concession, as Churchmen;" 11, Professor Mayor (President of the Vegetarian Society), on "Abstinence;" 18, the Rev. Harry Jones, on "True Manhood;" 25, Canon Elwyn, Master of the Charterhouse, on "True Womanhood."

The first of an interesting course of sermons to be preached at St. Margaret's, Lothbury, upon the Thursdays in Lent, at 1 p.m., was delivered on Thursday last by the Bishop of Colchester. The subject of the course is "The responsibility of the City towards East London," and the idea to be maintained throughout is that East London has been created by the labour market of England, and that the City being the centre of that labour market, has a special responsibility towards that Lazarus who has thus been drawn up to her gates. The preacher to-morrow will be the Rev. H. Hensley Henson, Fellow of All Souls', Oxon, who has left Oxford to become head of the Oxford House in Bethnal-green. The other preachers are the Revs. Rhodes Bristowe, H. L. Pagett, C. Ridgeway, A. T. Lyttelton, and the Bishop of Bedford. to whose East London Church Fund the offertories on each Thursday are given.

A general ten days' Mission has just been held in Birmingham, concluding on Wednesday, February 15th. In the parish of St. Gabriel, Digbeth, one of the very poorest in the town. a most laborious and self-denying work is being done in the slums and alleys by the Vicar, the Rev. Walter H. Cariss. In fact, the ordinary work in St Gabriel's is one long Mission. The Missioners were the Revs. H. J. Wilmot-Buxton, and H. J. Stephens, whose efforts were ably seconded by the energetic labours of a band of Church workers. As a result, although the numbers of people who attended were not very large, the poorest and most degraded were reached. A large portion of the congregation consisted of men, and a special service for men only was well attended on each Sunday. There was a daily celebration at 7 a.m.; a service for women each afternoon, followed by a service for the children, which was very popular. The numbers at the eight o'clock evening service increased nightly, and the solemn Thanksgiving on the last evening of the Mission was attended by a large and deeply moved congregation. In addition to the services in church, one of the Missioners gave an address to a crowd outside a travelling show which was pitched in the parish. In the parish of St. George's, where the Rev. J. H. Haslam was the Missioner, the attendance at the Mission services have been very encouraging. On Sunday, the 5th inst., in addition to the ordinary services, the Missioner visited the early morning adult schools, and addressed first some 260 men, and afterwards 150 women. These schools commence at 7.30 a.m., and continue till 9.

FOR SALE.—A Set of Handbells (nearly new), 19 in number, in the key of G, 1 size. Price £4.—Apply, A. B. C., 2, Arlington Cottages, Turnham Green London, W.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Eight peals in six days. That has been a "ringers' outing," and no mistake! Recalling to mind personal experiences one feels inclined to exclaim "O, blisters!" Surely Canon Wigram and his three guests have every cause to reflect with pride on their week's performances, which must be regarded as unique, not merely by reason of the number of peals rung, but also for the various methods of which they were composed. Three peals of Stedman Triples, one of Stedman Caters, two of Double Norwich Court, one of Superlative Surprise, and one of Grandsire Caters, is a list, which, while reflecting credit on the performers, will at the same time, I have no hesitation in saying, require some beating.

* * * * *

Another pleasing feature is the number of "first peals" and "first peals in the method" which the record includes. Out of 26 ringers who took part in the six days' ringing, no less than 19 of them rung in the respective methods for the first time.

* * * * *

In your editorial remarks on this matter, you ask—"To what good result does such energy tend, so far as the extension of half-pull ringing is concerned?" That query is easily disposed of. The simple fact of the visits paid to the several belfries by the gentlemen in question, and the accomplishment of peals by them, aided by members of the local companies, cannot fail to have given pleasure and encouragement to our brethren in these places. Then can anyone doubt that the nineteen men who were thus enabled to score their first peal in the various methods rung, will be more enthusiastic in the future?

* * * * *

As to the question whether the four gentlemen would not have done more good had their primary object been belfry improvement, instead of peal-ringing, that may, of course, be debatable. It, however, raises a point which I scarcely think is sufficiently *apropos* to be considered in connection with the performances in question.

* * * * *

This "ringing expedition" is undoubtedly praiseworthy to those who organised it, and who so successfully carried it out, and at the same time the exploit reflects credit on the Exercise in another way, seeing that it shews in no uncertain manner that we include in our ranks gentlemen capable of bringing such an array of peals to a successful completion in so short a time.

* * * * *

Messrs. Taylor, of the celebrated Loughborough bell-foundry, are to be congratulated on the accomplishment of their first peal of Stedman Caters by themselves and staff. Apart from its scientific aspect, it must have been a pleasant sight to see masters and men together in the belfry "piloting their bells" through the intricacies of Stedman's method, under the conductorship of the "junior" Taylor; the Taylor "senior" being also one of the company. It would seem to indicate the existence of that thoroughly reciprocal spirit between employer and employee which invariably denotes consideration and thoughtfulness on the part of the masters, and good sound sense and practical ability on the part of the men. Long may it be so.

* * * * *

While on the subject of peals, I should like to ask how it is we have not seen recorded a second peal of Mr. Heywood's very musical and interesting method "Duffield?" Is it that our friends are afraid of tackling it? Surely not! I cannot think that those who are able to boast of having taken their part in peals of intricate methods, such as Stedman, Double Norwich Court, Superlative, and the like, have not confidence in being able to add "Duffield" to their list—a method which is as easy of accomplishment as it is musical in its qualities. Come, now; who is going to carry the palm for ringing the first peal outside Mr. Heywood's own tower.

* * * * *

I notice ten of my brother College Youths' have been ringing a long course of Kent Treble Bob Royal, at St. Dunstan's. What do they mean by "a long course?" I have rung courses in that method of various lengths, but the term "long course" seems to me a rather indefinite quantity.

* * * * *

Our Liverpool friends have paid a very graceful compliment to their oldest member, Mr. Richard Williams, by ringing a peal of Grandsire Caters in commemoration of the veteran gentleman's 77th birthday, the event being also the more interesting by being rung on the 50th anniversary of a similar peal in which he took part. Half a century is a long spell of life as a ringer, and no doubt Mr. Williams will be able to speak from personal experience of the great improvement which has taken place in connection with the Exercise since the day in which he rung the former peal. Allow me to join with my friends of Liverpool in wishing their "oldest man in the ranks" many happy returns of the day.

* * * * *

There is one point which I feel desirous of laying before the Exercise for their consideration, namely, the desirability of having a central depot for the sale of our ringing publications. But a comparatively short time ago, the number of existing works on ringing might have been counted on the fingers of one hand, and now that the list has swollen to such goodly proportions, would it not be a great convenience to us if there existed some recognised repository for our literature? Almost any political, scientific and social organisation of any magnitude has now a recognised publishing office for its literary productions, while we are, as it were, still groping in the dark in this matter.

* * * * *

Valuable works are now doubtless lying on the shelves of the authors unasked for, which ought to be—and I feel sure would be—much more widely circulated, if our brethren knew for a certainty where to get them. As it is, unless they are advertised in this paper, they might almost as well never have been written. And, even if it were well known where the various books were to be had, the mere fact of being able to get them together at one place could not fail to be very advantageous, and would without a doubt tend to greatly increase their sale.

* * * * *

There can be no mistake about the existence of a growing demand for scientific ringing works, and that demand, it must be admitted, would be met considerably better by means of a recognised and well-known place of publication, than by the present unsatisfactory and inefficient mode of getting such works into circulation.

* * * * *

Have we no energetic brother "in the trade" who would take this matter up, collect and catalogue all existing works on the science, and bring them constantly before the notice of our members? From a financial point of view, the risk would be small, and the venture could not fail to be remunerative.

* * * * *

There are many other advantages which would accrue from the adoption of this plan; but for the present I leave it, trusting to learn the opinions of our friends upon the subject.

FREE LANCE.

COALBROOKDALE.

On Sunday, February 12th, the offertories at Coalbrookdale church were given to the Coalbrookdale Society, who are remunerated in this way for their services in connection with the church. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Rev. Lord Forester, Canon of York, whose discourse was full of interest, recalling as it did various incidents connected with the history of the bells. The sermon in the evening was preached by the Rev. Dr. Lindsay, rector of Berrington, whose eloquent and able discourse was listened to with deep attention. At both services there were large congregations. The choir, led by Mr. Harvey, sang in the evening an anthem with considerable taste and feeling. The offertories amounted to £11 1s.

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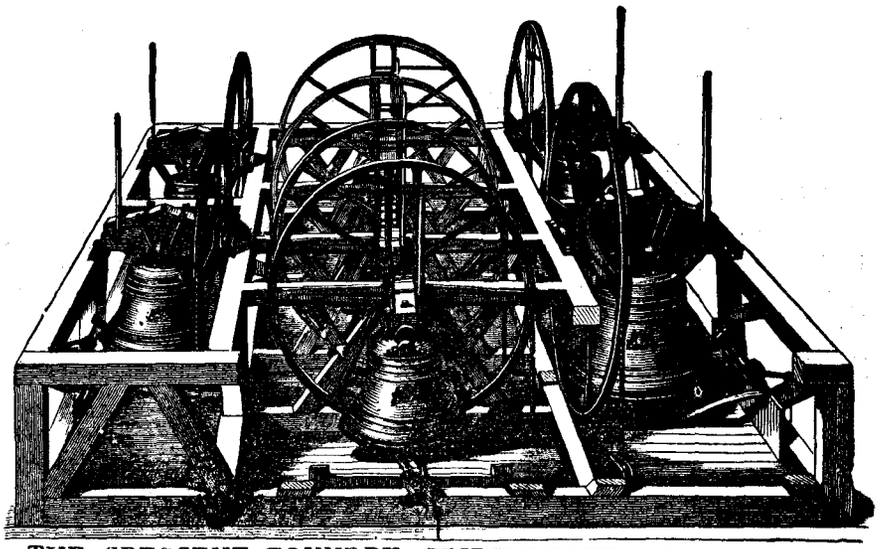

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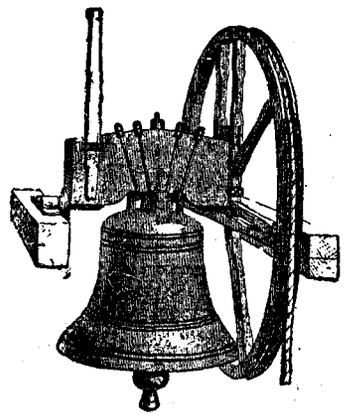

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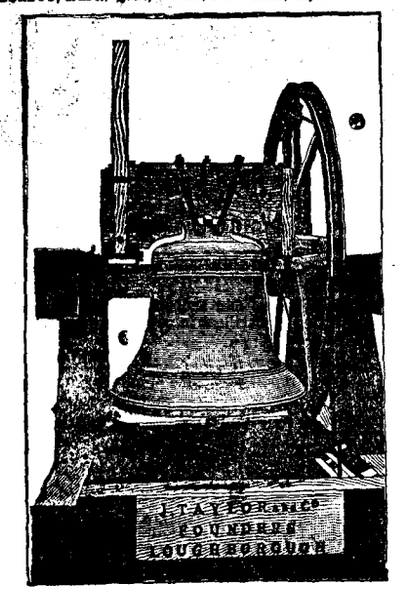

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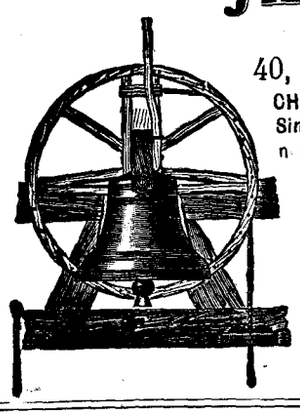

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THE

BELL NEWS

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No. 310. [NEW SERIES.]—*VOL. VI.* SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1888. ONE PENNY.

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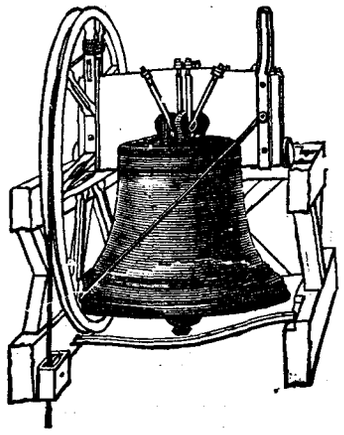

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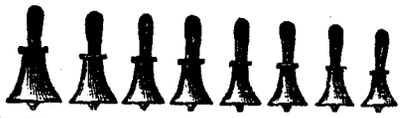

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ST. EDWARD'S, ROMFORD, ESSEX.

MANY of our readers will remember a leading comment which appeared in this journal nearly three years ago respecting the state of affairs in the Romford belfry, an apartment, by the way, which was in refined sarcasm compared to a "slaughter-house." Shortly afterwards, a hope of reformation was engendered, a meeting of the parishioners having been held at which the importance of erecting a choir vestry and carrying out some suggested improvements in the organ had been advocated. As this meeting fortunately came a few weeks after the appearance of the editorial comment above alluded to, the thin edge of the wedge, so to speak, was driven in, and there became a prospect that the wave of belfry restoration which was passing over various parts of the county of Essex, would find a brief resting place at Romford. A resolution brought before the meeting for the appointment of a Committee for carrying out the proposals mentioned above was adopted, and just in the nick of time one of the parishioners, who evidently appreciated the music from the tower, advocated the notion that the Committee should consider all three sections of the improvements. This was agreed upon, and it was resolved to open one fund, the organ improvements to follow the erection of the choir vestry, and the bells naturally to come last. Canon Hitchcock, the vicar, had already in hand £200, generously given by Mrs. E. O. Coope, and before the meeting closed the vicar further announced another 215 guineas. Christmas of 1885 found the vestry completed and ready for use at a cost of £500. The harvest festival of 1886 found the organ improvements carried out at a cost of £290, a sum of £40 having been spent upon the instrument beyond the estimated cost. Thus nearly £800 was raised and spent. Early last winter, Canon Hitchcock, through ill-health, spent the winter in the south of France, and by reason of his absence it was not till last autumn that anything further was done with respect to the tower bells. "Better late than never" is an old saying, and this was never more fully demonstrated than in the present instance. It was at the end of 1887 that the local company learnt that a contract had been entered into with Messrs. Warner and Sons to rehang the bells, and arrangements were made with a local builder to renovate the interior of the tower, the whole of which has been effected through the interest that Canon Hitchcock has taken in the matter. The work carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons has been that of retuning, rehanging, with guide ropes in the clock chamber, quarter-turning, and new stocks, wheels, clappers, and new appliances in general, with the exception of a new frame. In lieu of the old wheels, some of the smaller bells having larger wheels than some of the heavier bells, wheels of proper proportion have been put in, and various improvements adopted, the whole of the work being executed in a thorough workmanship style, which has given entire satisfaction. At the express desire of Messrs. Warner and Sons, a band of the Essex Association met on Saturday afternoon, and within fifteen minutes of the time that the workmen had left the tower, they had started for a peal, with the result as will be seen in the peal column. The go of the bells is everything that can be desired, and as good a circle as could possibly be obtained in retaining the old frame has been made. The re-tuning has also been successfully carried out, and the result is a fair octave just below F. With the exception of the fifth, recast in 1850, the whole of the ring hung in the old tower, and are of various dates; the fourth, sixth, and seventh, are dated 1636, and the tenor, undated, is acknowledged to be somewhat more ancient. Some of the bells were cast by Miles Gray. In addition to the work undertaken by Messrs Warner and Sons, Mr. Hammond, a local builder, has fitted in a sounding board, which will act in a double capacity, it having been put up in a kind of umbrella covering in order to protect the interior of the tower from wet, rain having drifted in some considerable distance up the spire. The ringing-chamber is also undergoing a thorough renovation, and when completed will present a complete change of aspect.

Upon conclusion of the peal on Saturday, the band, with the workmen engaged, were invited to a knife and fork tea at "The Swan," by Canon Hitchcock, who presided. Upon the cloth being removed, Mr. B. Keeble, on behalf of the local company, tendered a hearty vote of thanks to the members of the Association who had assisted in the ringing of the peal, and to the vicar for his kind hospitality, and the interest he had taken in bringing about the restoration of the tower, and to the churchwardens and parishioners in general who had subscribed to the funds. The speaker pointed out that so far back as 1874 the matter was brought by means of a circular before the public, and he felt convinced although no good results came of that, that the day would at last arrive when the wave of belfry reform would reach them. The Association had by its influence again brought the need of restoration before the parishioners, but the work effected was due to the persistent interest that had been taken by the vicar.

In acknowledging the vote, the rev. gentleman referred to the means he adopted to secure the funds for the restoration and the ready response that he met with. It had been a pleasure for him to meet the band, and hear from them so excellent a report of the work carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons.

Complimentary toasts were given, a free flow of harmony prevailed, and with congratulations, including one to Mr. George Newson, upon having rung his first peal on the tenor behind, were passed, and a pleasant evening enjoyed. A course of Grandsire was then rung. R. Sewell, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; G. Newson, 5-6; A. J. Perkins, 7-8; E. Barnett, 9-10. And a course of Stedman Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2: G. Newson, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; E. Barnett, 7-8. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; G. Newson, 3-4; E. Barnett, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. We are requested to state that after Easter the bells will be rung every Sunday morning, when the local company will be pleased to meet any friends, or in the evening by arrangement. B.

MUFFLED RINGING AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

As a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Vicar of St. John's parish (the Rev. W. E. Houldey), the members of the Guild of ringers connected with the above church rang the bells muffled for both services on Sunday, the 26th ult. The deceased clergyman, who about two years ago was appointed to the rectory of Etherby, in County Durham, took great interest in ringing matters, and was the founder of the Guild about ten years ago. His loss is very severely felt, and the members who took part in the ringing on Sunday last deputed their conductor, Mr. Francis Lees, to represent them at the funeral, which took place on Monday, the 27th ult. He also, as a mark of respect and condolence with the surviving members of the family, took a beautiful wreath, which was subscribed for by the members of the Guild. The following took part in the ringing during the day: R. J. Robson, H. Furgusson, F. Lees (conductor). R. S. Story, W. G. Routledge, C. L. Routledge, W. H. Sykes, G. Forsyth, T. J. des Forges, and P. B. Woodger, assisted in the morning by L. C. Lockhart, Esq., of Hexham. Grandsire Triples were rung in the evening.

At Bishop Richardson's Lenten ordination, held on Tuesday at Christ Church, Carlton-hill, six clergymen were added to the ministry of the Reformed Episcopal church.

WANTED.—A pair of small bells, for striking quarters in a turret clock; should weigh together about 2 cwt.—Address, stating size, note and price, E.D.M., Lambrook, Bracknell.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS AT ST. MICHAEL-AT COSLANY, NORWICH.

On Tuesday, February 14th, another portion of the work of renovating this grand old parish church was most auspiciously brought to completion. The tower has been throughly restored under the superintendence of Mr. E. P. Willins. The stonework of the windows, the buttresses, and pinnacles has been renewed, the flintwork has been re-pointed, and an air of solidity and beauty now pervades the whole. But it is with the interior arrangements of the tower we have to deal on this occasion. In the various works connected with St. Michael's thoroughness and completeness have been the leading principles. The ring of eight bells has been entirely re-hung in a substantial frame of English oak, with new stocks, wheels and pulleys, The restoration of the ringing gallery is most satisfactory. Those only who knew it in its old form can appreciate the change. It is entirely open to the church, there being merely light metal protecting rail. The west window has been opened out to its original proportions, and has been filled with stained glass by the Sheriff as a memorial to members of his family. The ceiling is of oak match-boarding divided into panels by moulded ribs. A light double ring of iron guides the bell-ropes into a convenient circle. At three o'clock on Tuesday, word was given by Mr. Sturgess, and the bells were rung for the first time by eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, selected by the Secretary and stationed as follows: W. Freeman, 1; Rev. A. G. Blyth, 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 3; P. Sadler, 4; J. W. Spratt, 5; F. Knights, 6; J. Skinner, 7; Captain A. P. Moore, 8. A few touches having been rung, an inspection was made of the frame and fittings. Ringing was again resumed, and kept up with spirit till 6.30. The event was then celebrated in a genuinely English way by a "feed" at the "Duke's Head" inn, where an excellent tea was served by the host, R. Fiddy. The chair was occupied by the Sheriff, and the vice by Mr. W. T. Sturgess, and there were psesent the rector of the parish, the Rev. S. J. Compton, Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Secretary of the Diocesan Association), Rev. A. G. Blyth (curate of St. Phillip's, Heigham), Captain A. P. Moore, Messrs. E. P. Willins, J. W. Spratt, J. Commins, T. R. Newman, W. J. Simmons, F. Knights, and members of the St. Peter Mancroft Company and other ringing friends. After the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, all present congratulated the Rector and churchwardens upon the good work accomplished.

"Success to the Diocesan Association of Ringers" was given by the Sheriff and responded to by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke and Captain Moore.

"The Healh of the Churchwardens, Messrs. Bagshaw and Sturgess," then followed. Too much credit can scarcely be accorded to these gentlemen for the improvements in the tower, which have been effected by their energy. Hearty thanks were expressed for their kindness and hospitality. An adjournment was made to the tower, the various methods of change-ringing and other ways of using the bells being briefly explained to the non-ringers by Mr. Bolingbroke. A few changes, rounds, and firing brought a pleasant afternoon and evening to a close.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, February 18th, a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at St. Paul's church, Ramsbottom, when ringers from the following towers attended and took part in the ringing of several touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Plain Bob, and College Single: Christ Church, and St. Saviour's, Bacup, Newchurch, Waterfoot, Helmshore, Haslingden, Bolton, and Ramsbottom. A meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by Mr. Nutter, of Ramsbottom, when it was resolved to hold the next ringing meeting at Newchurch, the date to be fixed by the Newchurch ringers. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close, after which the members again returned to the belfry for another pull.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—William Pollard and Co., Printers, Exeter

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan.
Sussex County Association	8
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	6
Norwich Diocesan Association	5
Midland Counties Association	4
Oxford Diocesan Guild	3
St. James's Society, London	3
Lancashire Association	3
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	3
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	3
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	2
Yorkshire Association	1
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ...	1
Kent County Association	1
Winchester Diocesan Guild	1
Worcester & Adjoining Districts Association	1
The Holt Society	1
Surrey Association	1
Eastern Counties Guild	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association	1
Independent Societies	5
	54
Less peals entered under two Associations	2
Total	52

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1; Stedman Triples, 5; Treble Bob Major, 4; Grandsire Caters, 2; Grandsire Triples, 24; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 2; Court Bob Triples, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 2; Bob Major, 3; in seven Minor Methods on six bells, 3; in one ditto, 1: in fourteen methods on five bells, 1; Total 52. Greatest number of changes in any one of above peals 10,080. Quickest 5000 on church bells, 2 hrs. 29 mins., rung at Capel in Surrey last year.

Number of peals rung in January 1887 ...	50
" " " 1888 ...	52

Brighton. G. F. Attree.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—PRESENTATION TO AN INSTRUCTOR.

On Wednesday evening, February 22nd, the members of the above held a meeting at their meeting room, Queen Street, the Rev. E. R. Cruickshank in the chair, for the purpose of revising rules, etc., they having recently joined the Sussex County Association. The Vicar, on behalf of the members, and after a few appropriate remarks, and wishing them success in the art of change-rining, presented to Mr. George Williams a peal book containing a figured presentation card, also an engraving on a silver plate, and fixed to cover a bell with wheel, stock, and frame, being the work of two of the members, in recognition of his services as Instructor, and which was a surprise to the receiver, being subscribed for by the ringing members themselves.

Mr. Williams expressed himself very much pleased when knowing what was given to him, he having several peals to record in it already. He wished his brother-strings success in the art of change-ringing, urging upon them the necessity of constant and persevering practice, being always ready with his advice and help to all who ask. Some Bob Doubles and a course of Grandsire Triples were rung on a new set of hand-bells recently purchased of Mr. G. Welch, 51 Bank Side, Southwark, London, which for finish, quality, and tone was all that could be desired, and much admired by all present. Thus ended a very enjoyable evening, concluding with thanks to the Vicar.

From the minutes of Parliamentary proceedings it appears that in the case of Hakes *v.* Bell-Cox, an appeal was presented to the House of Lords, and read on the 10th inst., and the respondent ordered to lodge a printed case in answer on or before the 23rd March.

FROME, SOMERSETSHIRE.—RINGERS' SUPPER AND PRESENTATION.

On Tuesday evening, February 14th, the ringers connected with the parish church were invited by Mr. Chas. Baily (one of the churchwardens), to a supper at Miss Bull's hotel, to inaugurate the completion of the improvements which have been made in the ringing-chamber, and also the introduction of several young members to the party. The repast, which was a capital one, was ably presided over by the donor of the feast, who was supported by the Hon. and Rev. A. F. A. Hanbury-Tracy, the Vicar, the Rev. J. Polehampton, and Mr. G. W. Wiltshire.

After supper, the usual toasts were proposed and duly responded to. In the course of his response to the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," the Vicar spoke in terms of great praise of the courteous manner in which he was treated by the Bishop on his appointment as Vicar of Frome, and also of kind way in which he spoke of the good work which had been done in Frome by the late Vicar. Referring to the subject of the bells, the rev. gentleman expressed the hope that Frome would not long remain behindhand in the matter of change-ringing, but it would soon become the centre of an able association. Mr. Baily also endorsed the Vicar's wishes in that respect, and kindly promised to purchase a set of handbells for the use of the ringers in practice.

A most interesting feature in the evening's proceedings was the presentation by the Vicar to Mr. G. Ashby, of a handsome bronze inkstand, *fac simile* of the tenor bell in the church tower, on the occasion of his retirement from the office of steeple-keeper. The testimonial, which was the work of Messrs. Singer and Son, bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. George Ashby by his brother ringers and friends, on his retirement from the office of steeple-keeper of the parish church of St. John-the-Baptist, Frome-Selwood, Christmas, 1887."

In making the presentation, the Vicar paid a high compliment to Mr. Ashby for the very efficient manner in which he had always carried out his duties, and Mr. Ashby expressed his thanks for the unexpected gift, which he should always look upon with pride as a memento of his connection with the parish church ringers, and though ceasing to be a member, he should be always willing to render them every assistance in his power.

Some capital songs were rendered, and thanks to Mr. Baily for his hospitality, and a verse of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

MILTLAND, SUSSEX.

On Monday, February 27th, some members of the Midhurst branch of the Sussex County Association, paid a visit to the above place by the kind invitation of the Rev. —. Peebels, but owing to the state of the roads did not arrive so soon as intended. On arriving there they soon set to work, and rang six 120's of Bob Doubles, G. Williams (conductor). Afterwards they were invited to the rectory, where a sumptuous repast was served out, here they were joined by some of the Miltland ringers, and after having done full justice to the good things provided, some courses of Bob Doubles were rung by the mixed bands; also some Grandsire Triples by the Midhurst visitors. Before leaving, the health of the Rev. and Mrs. Peebels were drank with much goodwill, all joining in heartily for the kind manner in which they had been received, thus ending a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Putney, on Monday, February 20th, by the kind permission of the Vicar, and in spite of the inclement weather, was fairly well attended by members from Wimbledon, Beddington, Streatham, Kingston, Mitcham, Acton, Tottenham, Fulham, and London. In the course of the evening some very good practice was enjoyed, touches being brought round in Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Major, etc., the best being two courses of Kent, conducted by E. Bennett. The go of the bells was good, but the ropes are very much worn, and need renewal. Edward F. Strange, *Assistant Hon. Sec.*

A Correction.—The peal of Treble Bob Major rang at Ipswich on handbells, December 1887, was rang in 2 hrs. 39 mins.

A PUZZLE.

A "Thick-headed Stoney Ringer," as he terms himself, would feel obliged if some of our readers would tell him in how many ways "The Bell News" can be spelled from this word square, commencing at the centre T, and reading all possible ways, up, down, right and left, and of course all sorts of zig-zag ways.

S W E N L L L N E W S
W E N L L E L L N E W
E N L L E B E L L N E
N L L E B E B E L L N
L L E B E H E B E L L
L E B E H T H E B E L
L L E B E H E B E L L
N L L E B E B E L L N
E N L L E B E L L N E
W E N L L E L L N E W
S W E N L L L N E W S

And further, how many times can our full title be spelled from the quarter of a square given below. He gives the quarter only in mercy to our type, and supposes that the number arrived at, multiplied by four, will give the full amount supposing the whole square was given as in the first instance.

H
H T H E B E L L N E W S A N D
H E B E L L N E W S A N D R
E B E L L N E W S A N D R I
B E L L N E W S A N D R I N
E L L N E W S A N D R I N G
L L N E W S A N D R I N G E
L N E W S A N D R I N G E R
N E W S A N D R I N G E R S
E W S A N D R I N G E R S R
W S A N D R I N G E R S R E
S A N D R I N G E R S R E C
A N D R I N G E R S R E C O
N D R I N G E R S R E C O R
D R I N G E R S R E C O R D

FESTIVITY AT MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 25th, the Micklehurst handbell ringers held their first tea party and meeting, over 200 partaking of tea. Afterwards the room was crowded, Mr. John Holden, President of the United Counties' Association took the chair, aud congratulated the ringers upon the progress they had made, only having had their handbells about five months. He also said that the large number present at that meeting went to prove that the efforts of the ringers would be appreciated, and he trusted that by application and constant practice, the ringers would prove themselves worthy of the support and encouragement of their friends and the public. The following programme was admirably rendered:—

	"Ye Banks and Braes" ..	Ringers.
Recitation ..	"The Bridge Keeper's story"	Miss Holt.
	Chairman's Address.	
	"Oft in the stilly night" ..	Ringers.
Recitation	"Tommy O'Dans" ..	H. Dearnley.
	"Adeste Fideles" ..	Ringers.
Reading	"Parson and Wasps" ..	E. Whitehead.
Recitation	"Johnnie and Peggie" ..	Miss Holt.
	"My love she's but a lassie yet"	Ringers.
Dialogue	"Shaving done here" ..	Ringers.
	Vesper Hymn	Ringers.
Recitation	"Willie's Grave" ..	Miss Holt.
	"Lambs Folds Vale" ..	Ringers.
Recitation	"Mussel pie"	Miss Holt.
	"Picnic Waltz" ..	Ringers.
	"Home, sweet home" ..	Ringers.
Dialogue	"Ole Fat Joss"	Ringers.

Votes of thanks to the ladies who had presided at the tea, and to the Chairman, concluded a meeting which had been a decided success, and the Handbell Ringers' Funds were considerably benefited.

To Change Ringers.—Canon Wigram thanks his twenty-seven correspondents who have replied to his advertisement, and begs that this general acknowledgement may suffice for letters too numerous to answer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5008.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	B	M	H
5 2 3 6 4	–	–		–
3 5 2 6 4				–
2 3 5 6 4				–
5 6 2 3 4	–			–
2 5 6 3 4				–
6 3 2 5 4	–			–
2 6 3 5 4				–
3 2 6 5 4				–
6 5 3 2 4	–			–
3 6 5 2 4				–
5 3 6 2 4				–

The above eleven courses repeated, with single instead of bob at home in last course of second part, produce:—

3 2 4 5 6	W	B	M	H
3 2 6 4 5	–	2		–
6 3 2 4 5				–
2 6 3 4 5				–
3 4 2 6 5	–			–
2 3 4 6 5				–
4 6 2 3 5	–			–
2 4 6 3 5				–
6 2 4 3 5				–
4 3 6 2 5	–			–
5 6 3 2 4			–	–
3 5 6 2 4				–
3 5 2 4 6		–		–
2 3 5 4 6				–
5 2 3 4 6				–
3 4 5 2 6	–			–
5 3 4 2 6				–
4 2 5 3 6	–			–
5 4 2 3 6				–
2 5 4 3 6				–
4 3 2 5 6	–			–
2 4 3 5 6				–
2 3 4 5 6				s

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place at a course-end, and has the 6th twenty-two times at home, 4th thirteen times in 6ths and nine times in 5ths place, with 5th nine times each way in 5-6.

DATE TOUCH OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By F. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	5	6
3 6 4 5 2	–	–	–	
4 3 2 6 5			–	
3 5 2 6 4	–	–	–	
2 5 4 6 3	–		–	
4 5 3 6 2	–		–	
5 2 3 6 4	–	–	–	
3 2 4 6 5	–		–	
4 2 5 6 3	–		–	
2 3 5 6 4	–	–	–	
3 4 5 6 2	–	–	–	
3 2 5 4 6		–	–	
2 5 3 4 6				–
4 3 5 2 6	–			–
3 5 4 2 6				–
2 4 5 3 6	–			–
4 5 2 3 6				–
5 2 4 3 6				–
3 4 2 5 6	–			–
4 2 3 5 6				–
2 3 4 5 6				–

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

6384.

By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
4 5 2 3 6	–		–
6 2 4 5 3	–	–	–
3 4 6 2 5	–	–	–
6 2 3 4 5	–		–
3 6 5 2 4	–	–	
5 3 4 6 2	–	–	
4 3 2 6 5		–	
5 2 4 3 6	–	–	–
4 3 5 2 6	–		–
5 4 6 3 2	–	–	
3 5 6 4 2	–		
2 6 3 5 4	–	–	–
3 2 6 5 4			–
4 6 3 2 5	–	–	–
3 4 5 6 2	–	–	
6 3 5 4 2	–		
5 6 2 3 4	–	–	
2 5 4 6 3	–	–	
3 4 2 5 6	–	–	–

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th twelve times wrong and right. If a bob is called at home in the sixteenth course the seventeenth course is brought up, and the peal is reduced to 6048.

6384.

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
4 5 2 3 6	–		–
2 4 6 5 3	–	–	
6 4 3 5 2		–	
2 3 6 4 5	–	–	–
6 2 3 4 5			–
3 6 2 4 5			–
2 6 5 4 3		–	
5 2 3 6 4	–	–	
4 3 5 2 6	–	–	–
5 4 3 2 6			–
6 3 5 4 2	–	–	–
2 5 6 3 4	–	–	–
6 5 4 3 2		–	
4 6 2 5 3	–	–	
2 4 3 6 5	–	–	
3 4 5 6 2		–	
5 6 3 4 2	–		–
3 5 2 6 4	–	–	
4 2 3 5 6			

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th twelve times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By A. E. DURRANT, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4		–		2
2 5 4 6 3	2			2
5 3 4 6 2	2	–	1	2
6 4 3 5 2	1	–		2
4 6 2 5 3		–	1	2
6 3 2 5 4	2	–	1	2
5 6 3 4 2		–		2
2 4 3 6 5	2	–	2	1
2 3 6 4 5	1	–	2	2
2 6 4 3 5			1	2
6 3 4 2 5			2	
3 5 4 2 6	1			2
2 4 5 3 6	1	–		2
2 5 3 4 6			1	2
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	2	2

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES.

5040.

By FREDERICK WICKENS, *Charlwood, Surrey.*

2 3 4 5 6 7	
7 5 2 3 4 6	1
3 5 7 2 4 6	5
5 7 3 4 6 2	4
2 4 5 7 3 6	1
7 4 2 5 3 6	5
5 4 7 2 3 6	5
4 7 5 3 6 2	4
2 3 4 7 5 6	1
3 4 2 5 6 7	4

Twice repeated, omitting the last bob, produces—

4 3 5 2 6 7	
7 2 4 3 5 6	1
3 2 7 4 5 6	5
2 7 3 5 6 4	4
4 5 2 7 3 6	1
5 2 4 3 6 7	4
7 3 5 2 4 6	1
2 3 7 5 4 6	5
5 3 2 7 4 6	5
3 2 5 4 6 7	4

This part twice repeated, with a single instead of the last bob, produces—

4 3 2 5 7 6

The whole repeated.

MIDDLE SINGLE, THUS:

4 2 3 7 1 6 5
4 3 2 1 7 5 6
3 4 1 2 5 7 6
3 1 4 5 2 6 7
1 3 4 5 2 6 7
1 4 3 2 5 7 6
4 1 2 3 7 5 6
4 2 1 7 3 6 5
2 4 7 1 3 5 6
2 7 4 3 1 6 5

END SINGLE.

2 4 3 6 1 7 5
2 3 4 1 6 5 7
3 2 1 4 5 6 7
3 1 2 5 4 7 6
1 3 2 5 4 7 6
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By A. E. DURRANT, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
3 4 6 2 5	2	–	2	2
5 3 2 4 6	2		1	2
5 2 4 3 6	1	–	2	2
2 3 4 5 6			2	

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 6 5 3 2	2	–	2	2
5 2 3 6 4	1		1	2
4 6 3 2 5	2	–	2	1
2 4 3 6 5			1	
6 3 5 4 2	2	–	2	
5 2 4 3 6	2	–	2	2
5 4 3 2 6	1	–	2	2

Repeated.

Rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne November 5th, 1887. Conducted by its composer.

FOUR DATE TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 6 3 4 2	2	–		2
3 2 4 6 5	2	–	2	2
4 5 6 2 3	2	–	2	2
5 4 3 2 6	2			2
2 3 4 5 6			2	2

This touch contains all the 6-5's and 5-6's, obtained by the use of double bobs, and in the least possible number of courses.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	B	W	H
3 5 2 6 4	–		
5 6 3 4 2	–		
6 4 5 2 3	–		
4 2 6 3 5	–		
5 2 4 3 6	–	1	
2 3 5 6 4	–		
2 3 6 4 5	–		1
2 3 4 5 6	–		1

This touch is obtained by single bobs, and in the greatest possible number of courses.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 6 5 3 2	2	–	2	2
5 2 3 6 4	2	–	2	2
3 4 6 2 5	1		2	2
6 5 2 4 3	1		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1		2	2

1888.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 6 3 4 2	2	–		2
4 2 6 3 5	1		2	2
3 5 2 6 4	1		2	2
6 4 5 2 3	1		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1		2	2

The last two here given and the last given in previous issue, are taken from the scale of course-ends, with the alternative calling as required to make up the number.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By RICHARD SMITH, *Halifax.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 6 5 3 2	1	1	2
4 5 3 6 2		1	2
3 2 6 5 4	1	1	2
6 4 5 2 3	1	1	2
4 6 3 2 5	2		2
4 3 2 6 5		1	2
4 2 6 3 5		1	2
2 4 5 3 6	2		2
2 5 3 4 6		1	2
2 3 4 5 6		1	2

Rung for the first time at Bradford, Yorkshire, on February 25th, 1888. Conducted by J. H. Hardcastle.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES,

5040.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Start with a quick six.
	4 2 1 5 6 3 7 4 5 6 7	
	1 4 5 6 2 3 7 4 5 8 9	
1	2 1 3 5 4 6 7 6 7 8 9 15 16	
	2 3 5 1 4 2 6 7	These four parts same as 1st part, but omit Bobs on 6, 7, in 1st course.
	3 1 4 5 2 3	
	4 5 2 4 3 1	
	5 4 3 2 1 5	
	6 3 4 2 5 1	Same as 1st part.
	7 2 5 4 1 3	Same as 2nd part.
	8 4 1 5 3 2	
	9 5 3 1 2 4	
	5 1 2 4 6 3 7 4 5	
	5 2 4 3 6 1 7	Single at 1. Bobs 4, 5.
10	4 5 3 6 2 1 7 4 5 8 9	
	2 4 1 3 5 6 7 6 7 8 9 15 16	
11	4 2 1 5 3 6 7	Same as 2nd part but omit 8, 9, in 2nd course.
12	1 5 2 3 4	Same as 2nd part.
13	2 3 5 4 1	
14	5 4 3 1 2	
15	3 1 4 2 5	
16	1 3 4 5 2	Same as 11th part.
17	4 5 3 2 1	Same as 2nd part.
18	3 2 5 1 4	
19	5 1 2 4 3	
20	2 5 4 6 1 3 7	Single at 1. Bobs at 4, 5, 8, 9
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 6 7 8 9 15 16	

First rung on January 30th, at Dorchester, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By JAMES MOTTS, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
6 4 2 3 5	–	–	–
2 6 4 3 5			–
4 3 2 6 5	–		–
2 4 3 6 5			–
3 2 4 6 5			–
4 6 3 2 5	–		–
3 4 6 2 5			–
6 2 3 4 5	–		–
3 6 2 4 5			–
2 3 6 4 5			–

Omit the HOME in the 28th course.

Rung at Ipswich, on handbells, on February 25th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	H
3 5 2 6 4		–	
5 6 3 4 2		–	
6 4 5 2 3		–	
6 4 2 3 5		–	1
4 3 6 5 2		–	
3 5 4 2 6		–	
5 2 4 3 6	1	–	
2 3 4 5 6	1	–	

A DATE TOUCH OF UNION TRIPLES.

1888.

By JOSIAH WATHEN, *Tewkesbury.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
2 1 3 5 4 7 6	
2 3 1 4 5 6 7	
3 2 4 1 6 5 7	
3 4 2 6 1 7 5	
4 3 6 2 7 1 5	S
4 6 3 7 2 1 5	
6 4 7 3 1 2 5	
6 7 4 1 3 5 2	
7 6 1 4 5 3 2	
7 1 6 5 4 2 3	
1 7 5 6 2 4 3	S
1 7 5 2 6 3 4	*
6 5 7 2 3 4	5
7 4 6 5 2 3	2
3 5 7 2 4 6	1
2 5 3 7 4 6	5
5 4 2 6 3 7	4
6 4 5 2 3 7	5
4 3 6 7 5 2	4
2 7 4 5 3 6	1
7 3 2 6 4 5	4
5 6 7 4 3 2	1
4 6 5 7 3 2	5
5 2 4 6 7 3	2
2 7 5 3 4 6	4
2 3 4 6 7 5	

Twice repeated with a bob the first call in the next two parts, same as*.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		1	2
4 2 6 3 5	2		2
3 6 2 4 5		2	2
3 2 4 6 5		1	2
3 4 6 2 5		1	2
4 3 5 2 6	2		2
2 5 3 4 6		2	2
3 6 4 5 2	1	1	2
6 2 4 5 3	1		2
2 3 4 5 6	1		2

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5376.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	6
3 2 6 5 4		–	–
2 6 3 5 4			–
6 3 2 5 4			–
5 2 3 6 4	–		–
2 3 5 6 4			–
3 5 2 6 4			–
6 2 5 3 4	–		–
2 5 6 3 4			–
5 2 4 3 6		–	–
2 4 5 3 6			–
4 5 2 3 6			–
3 2 5 4 6	–		–

Three times repeated, single instead of bob at 6 in 9th course of 2nd and 4th parts. Contains 4th, 5th, and 6th each sixteen times in 6th's place, with 2nd and 3rd never there.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, pos e, on the follo wing terms :—*

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.
" 6 " .. .. 3s. 3d.
" 3 " .. .. 1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "*THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1888.

OUR valued contributor who writes a page in this paper weekly under the pseudonym of "Free Lance," is determined apparently to make the most of his powers of observation, or as a correspondent observed a few days ago, "he lets very little escape his notice worth allusion." Those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance are of the same opinion, and for ourselves we have no hesitation in stating that his attachment to the brotherhood of our honorary literary staff is appreciated to the full, and his agreeable companionship, if only through the medium of the post, very much enjoyed. This week he again declaims upon a matter which we have more than once dealt with in unsparing language in this column, viz.: that of the publication of compositions which will not bear even a superficial examination. Whether the remedies he prescribes would have any effect is a matter of conjecture, certain it is that were we to insist upon what may be regarded as our prerogative, and relegate to the waste paper basket what in our opinion may be thought unworthy of publication, we should bring such a storm of protests about us that would have a tendency to drive the mind from its balance. We speak from experience; from cases where we have felt it our duty to point out glaring defects in, and the want of originality or bare use of many productions; but the experiment teaches us to let things be, and allow the opprobrium to fall where deserved without any deadening or buffer-like emollient. It has been our lot to have the principal share in the conduct of this journal from its commencement, and we would assure our friends that though their proposals, in many cases stringent, are well meant, yet judging by a well-grounded knowledge of the attitude which would be shown towards "THE BELL NEWS" if such radical changes as are suggested in connection with the composition page were effected, we forbear to make them. "Ringers are very peculiar people," was a remark made to us by a well known ringer at the time when the establishment of this paper was first proposed, and we confess to have come round, in some degree, to a kind of belief in the statement. To reason about "THE BELL NEWS" by the ordinary standards of journalism would be to argue upon false premises; and though we have had no small practice in newspaper effort, yet our exercises in connection with this journal is at variance with all our former knowledge and experience.

Whether the last suggestion of our friend will prove a solution of the difficulty is also open to question. It is a fact, as he says, that the late lamented President of the Yorkshire Association pressed upon us the adoption of a small charge for the insertion of each composition; in fact he reasoned strongly in his usual incisive manner in favour of it. While we should be glad to refrain from any course that is calculated to touch the pockets of those brethren who wish to show their efficiency in this branch of the art, many of whom have to exercise care to make both ends meet, still the suggestion deserves some consideration. But before proclaiming a ukase to this effect we should like to hear what those immediately concerned have to say about it. And the question thus remains as it was till they have intimated their disapproval or otherwise.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

The 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year next Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of Stedman Caters by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the Annual Dinner will take place at "The Horse Shoes." All ringing friends who wish to attend will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, *in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW ..	*Treble.*	CHALLIS F. WINNY	5.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ..	2.	GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	6.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL ..	3.	JOHN M. HAYES	7.
HENRY R. NEWTON	4.	WILLIAM CROPLEY ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN MURRAY HAYES.

This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

WALWORTH, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 28, 1888, *in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

HARRY FLOWER	*Treble.*	ARTHUR HAYWARD	5.
HENRY LANGDON	2.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE	6.
RICHARD FRENCH	3.	JOSEPH BARRY	7.
FRED BATE	4.	WILLIAM G. BULL ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The above was rung on the 64th anniversary of the consecration of this church. After the peal the ringers adjourned to the rectory and were kindly entertained by the esteemed Rector.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

SANTLEY BAKER .. .. ..*Treble.*	GEORGE WILD .. .. .. 5.
CHARLES E. MALIM .. .. 2.	HENRY S. THOMAS .. .. 6.
WALTER PARTINGTON .. 3.	HENRY L. PARTINGTON .. 7.
WILLIAM BARON.. .. .. 4.	HENRY A. HOPKINS.. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

Rang in honour of Mr. H. S. Thomas's birthday.

The Provinces.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 23¾ cwt.

ARTHUR HAWES .. .. ..*Treble.*	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
C. W. BASSANO, ESQ. .. 2.	WILLIAM NAPPER .. .. 6.
HARRY COBB .. .. .. 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
ERNEST NAPPER.. .. .. 4.	DENNIS NAPPER .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

Wedding Peal.

On Tuesday, February 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5136 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD GUEST .. .. ..*Treble.*	CLEMENT DRONSFIELD .. 5.
ALBERT CLEGG .. .. .. 2.	SAMUEL STOTT .. .. .. 6.
FRED CROSSLAND .. .. 3.	*JAMES PRIESTLY .. .. 7.
FRED COCKS* .. .. .. 4.	GEORGE H. BEEVER ..*Tenor.*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by G. H. BEEVER.

*First peal of Major in the method. This peal was rung to celebrate the marriage of J. S. Gartside.

MILNROW.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

STANLEY FIELDING .. ..*Treble.*	JOHN HARRISON .. .. 5.
WILLIAM R. BARRETT .. 2.	ALFRED CLEGG.. .. .. 6.
A. ED. WREAKS .. .. .. 3.	JOHN MILLETT .. .. .. 7.
GEORGE HOYLE .. .. .. 4.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

A. E. Wreaks hails from Manchester; Messrs Hoyle and Birtwistle from Rochdale; Messrs Barrett, Millett and Harrison from Heywood; the rest from Milnrow.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 25, 1887, in Three Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

GEORGE HITCHMAN .. ..*Treble.*	CHARLES BARNACLE .. 5.
JAMES JONES .. .. .. 2.	ISAAC HILLS .. .. .. 6.
CHARLES W. CLARKE.. .. 3.	WILLIAM G. BIGGS .. .. 7.
HENRY CHAPMAN .. .. 4.	ALFRED HACKLEY .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

Messrs C. W. Clarke, H. Chapman, I. Hills and W. G. Biggs hail from Bedford. This is Mr. Clarke's first peal as conductor. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the authorities for the use of the bells. And also Mr. Saniger, tower-keeper, for the manner he keeps the bells.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Re-Opening Peal.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM NASH .. .. ..*Treble.*	ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 5.
ROBERT SEWELL.. .. .. 2.	EDWIN BARNETT .. .. 6.
BENJAMIN KEEBLE .. .. 3.	ARTHUR JACOB .. .. .. 7.
WILLIAM LINCOLN .. .. 4.	GEORE NEWSON .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by ACKLAND JAMES PERKINS.

Mr. Sewell hails from Barking; Mr. Lincoln from Writtle, and this is his first peal; Mr. Barnett from West Ham; Messrs Jacob and Newson from Hampstead. Messrs Warner and Son having completed the re-hanging, the above was rung to test the work by desire of the firm, a further report will be found in another column. The Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec. of the Association, was invited to take part in the peal but was prevented by parochial duties.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

A. MOULSON.. .. .. ..*Treble.*	THOS. POLLITT.. .. .. 6.
H. RAISTRICK .. .. .. 2.	J. ANGUS .. .. 7.
J. H. FISHER .. .. .. 2.	J. H. HARDCASTLE .. .. 8.
RICHARD CREASEY* .. .. 4.	BEN. F. LAMB .. .. .. 9.
J. BROADLEY .. .. .. 5.	FRED. LONDON .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by RICHARD SMITH, of Halifax, and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

*First peal of Royal. Mr. Creasey hails from Spalding; Mr. London from Shipley; the rest are members of the local company.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Three Hours and a ½ Minute,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, THE "HALBERT INN," NORTHGATE ST., IPSWICH,

OR HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 size in F.

WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 1-2.	JAMES MOTTS.. .. .. 5-6.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 3-4.	FREDRICK TILLETT .. 7-8.
SAMUEL TILLETT.. .. ..9-10.	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

First peal on handbells by Messrs F. and S. Tillett, and first in the method by all the above. Mr. Daniel Prentice acted as referee, and took down the course-ends as they were rang. This was a good struck peal, there being several other brother strings in the room. This is supposed to be the first peal of Bob Royal rang on handbells.

Date Touches.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Friday, February 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1888 changes). in 1 hr. 14 W. Ireland (conductor), 1; A. Jolly (Oakley), 2; E. Broome, 3; J. Batrum (Oakley), 4; C. Webster, 5; E. Hayward, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Souter, 8. The above was taken from the Rev. H. E. Bulwer's collection of touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY.—On Tuesday evening, for practice at the Abbey, the local company rang a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Wednesday, February 15th, 1888. at the Society's meeting house, the Halbert Inn, Northgate Street, a date touch (1888 changes) of Kent Treble Bob Major, on handbells retained in hand, in 58½ mins. W. Motts, 1-2; J. Motts (conductor), 3-4; Frederick Tillett, 5-6; Daniel Prentice, 7-8. Composed by Daniel Prentice.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, February 26th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Sidebotham (composer and conductor), 1; W. H. Bradley, 2; R. Wright, 3; J. Harrop, 4; W. Middleton, 5; M. Williamson, 6; G. Braddock, T. Braddock, 8.

GLOUCESTER.—On Monday evening, February 27th, at St. Michael's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 16 mins. George Brunsdon, 1; George Wanklyn, 2; Frank Hart, 3; William Brunsden, 4; R. J. Wilkins, 5; Richard Brunsdon, 6; Benjamin Etheridge (conductor), 7; W. T. Pegler, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 21 cwt.

KELSALE (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 25th, at the parish church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Watling, 1; F. Watling, 2; W. Lambert, 3; R. Wells (conductor), 4; F. Cooper, 5; F. Thompson, 6; W. Fisher, 7; H. Cooper, 8. Composed by Samuel Marsh, of West Bromwich. F. Cooper hails from Aldeburgh, the rest are local men.

MAISEMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, February 8th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 1 min. G. Bennett, 1; Chas. Powell, 2; B. Etheridge (conductor), 3; Charles Etheridge, 4; Wm. Wicks, 5; Thomas Taylor, 6.

WOODFORD (Northants).—On Monday evening, February 27th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 20 mins., in the following methods, three 6-scores Stedman's Slow-course, three 6-scores Grandsire Doubles, three 6-scores Canterbury Pleasure, three 6-scores Bob Doubles, three 6-scores and 88 St. Simon's Doubles. W. Tiney, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. W. Tiney is 16 years of age, and H. Bunning and W. Wilson 15 years. Tenor 20 cwt.

WOODLESFORD, NEAR LEEDS.—On Sunday evening, February 19th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a date touch was rung in the following methods: 448 Violet, and 240 of each of the following: Royton Delight, London Scholar's Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, New London Pleasure, and Oxford, making a total of 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins. H. Jackson, 1; Wm. Haigh, 2; J. Haigh, 3; T. Wrigglesworth, 4; F. Denison, 5; J. Haigh (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, February 21st, 1888, at the parish church of St. Michael, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes). Joseph Burgess, 1; John Farrish, 2; Charles Bamford, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William Walmsley, 5; Edward Matthews (conductor), 6; Walter Ingham, 7; James Morlidge, 8. This is the first quarter-peal of Stedman by the above Guild. Tenor 20 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, February 7th, by the local company, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 28 mins. H. Barnes, 1; S. Romans, 2; D. Aston, 3; R. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; G. Miles, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, February 12th, before divine service, a 720 of Bob Minor (with twenty-five bobs and ten singles), in 27½ mins. J. Yeates, 1; S. Romans, 2; D. Aston, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Peglar, 1; S. Romans (conductor), 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. Wilkins, 4; D. Aston, 5; A. Waite, 5; W. Sevier, 7; E. Bewick, 8. Also on Sunday, February 26th, for evening service, a 336 of Bob Major. G. Brunsden, 1; S. Romans, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. Wilkins, 4; D. Aston, 5; A. Waite, 6; W. Sevier, 7; H. Gardener (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. This is the first touch of Major on the bells.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, February 18th, eight members of the above Association attempted to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at the parish church, but owing to a mishap directly after the half-way, the peal unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 35 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; Hy. Hollingsworth, 2; J. Warren, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; Geo. C. Tunnicliff 5; Geo. A. Fish, 6; J. Vickers, 7; F. W. Cook, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, February 19th, for Divine Service, at Christ Church, 720 Oxford Single (fourteen bobs and two singles). W. Ormerod, 1; James Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, February 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob nine bobs and six singles), taken from Shipway, in 25½ mins. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; Z. Lord, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WIDFORD (Essex).—Recently, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Dains, 1; A. Edwards, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; W. J. Piper, 6. And 720 Double Court. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Lincoln (conductor), 3; A. Edwards, 4; A. Shuttleworth, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. Also on Friday, February 17th, for practice, 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Lincoln, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards (first 720 in the method), 4; A. Tarbun (conductor), 5; W. J. Piper, 6. And on Sunday, February 19th, 720 New London Pleasure, in 24 mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Lincoln (conductor), 4; A. Edwards, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. And a course of Cambridge Surprise, with A. Edwards, 1; and W. Harvey, 5. Also on Friday, February 24th, 720 New London Pleasure. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Edwards, 3; W. Lincoln, 4; W. J. Piper (conductor), 5; A. Tarbun, 6. And 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Lincoln, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper (conductor), 6.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Thursday, February 22nd, at St. Mary's church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; *J. Dillow, 3; W. Prior, 4; *W. White, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. T. Prior, 1; J. White, 2; W. Prior, 3; W. Watts, 4; H. Prior (conductor), 5; G. Prior, 6. *First 720. Messrs. Prior and W. Watts hails from Stanstead, the rest are of the local company.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

ROTHERHITHE (Surrey).—On Monday, February 20th, eight members of the above Society attempted to ring Holt's Original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 5 mins. it came to grief through two bells changing course. W. Pead, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; T. Taylor, 4; F. G. Newman (conductor), 5; J. Barry, 6; W. H. Freeman, 7; J. Laws, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEREWORTH.—On Tuesday, February 28th, for practice, a 720 of College Single. G. Boorman, 1; W. Eldridge, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Hook, 4; W. Bell, 5; G. Newman (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 26th, for Divine service, in the evening, the first-part of Shipway's six-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples (840 changes), in 32 mins. C. Vaughan, 1; J. Browne, 2; T. Andrews, 3; G. Rapley, 4; W. Short, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow. 7; E. Waller, 8. Also the first part of Johnston's 12-part peal (420 changes), in the same method. Conducted by H. Burstow.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SUTTERTON (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday afternoon, February 25th, several members of the above society visited this place, by the kind invitation of the Rev. A. C. Rowley, and rang at the parish church, on the back six bells, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Sharp (Freeston), 1; G. Clow (Sutterton), 2; A. Barber (Freeston), 3; F. Clow (Sutterton), 4; T. Richardson (Kirton), 5; E. Mason (Boston), 6. Also half-peal by T. Richardson, F. Harwood (Kirton), A. Barber, F. Clow, J. Sharp, G. Clow. The Rev. A. C. Rowley kindly entertained the company to tea at the vicarage. Two honorary members were admitted—the Rev. A. Rowley and Francis M. Sealy, M.D. (Sutterton). Another half-peal was rung by the same company, after which, time came for the departure, having spent a pleasant evening. The next practice will be held at Kirton, on March 10th.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 21st, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). J Robinson, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 26th, for morning service, 600 Bob Minor. Fred Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F.

Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also after service, 360 Violet Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Robinson, 1; *Fred Saunders, 2; E. Moses, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5; R. Arnold, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 26th, at St. Stephen's church, the amateur society assisted by Mr. J. Hinton, rang two plain courses of Stedman Doubles. F. Elles, 1; J. Hinton, 2; S. Phillips, 3; E. Duckham, 4; C. Trevett, 5; J. Viney, 6. Also on Tuesday, February 28th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. G. Colston, 1; C. Trevett, 2; C. Burden, 3; W. Dowling, 4; F. Ellis, 5; S. Phillips, 6; E. Duckham (conductor), 7; G. Colston, 8. And 384 Grandsire Major. C. Burden, 1; W. Dowling, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; E. Duckham, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also two plain courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Duckham, 1; F. Elles, 2; C. Burden, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. This is the first attempt at Stedman by F. Elles and C. Trevett, and the first at Treble Bob by C. Trevett, F. Elles, S. Phillips, and C. Burden. And on Thursday, February 23rd, at Emmanuel Church, Clifton, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. C. Walsh, vicar of St. John's, Redland, after which the usual whole pull and stand, corresponding with the age of deceased was rung. G. Stadon, 1; G. Morgan, 2; W. Parsons, 3; E. Duckham, 4; J. Bawn, 5; J. Hinton, 6; F. Price (conductor), 7; G. Stallard, 8.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Monday, February 13th, at St. Michael's church, two 720's Bob Minor, the first with forty-two singles, composed by E. Francis, and conducted by J. Hinchley, the second with fourteen bobs and two singles, conducted by R. Hutton. And on Saturday, February 18th, two 720's Bob Minor, the first with eighteen bobs and two singles, conducted by J. Hinchley, and the second with fourteen bobs and two singles, conducted by R. Hutton, and composed by E. Francis, of Norwich. J. Fox (Tacolnestone), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton, 6.

COOKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, February 9th, for practice at St. Peter's church, on handbells, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Meredith, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter (conductor), 3; W. Smith, 4; H. Williams, 5-6.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, February 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. F. Culham, 1; W. T. Cook, 2; G. Conyard, 3; F. French, 4; T. Sloper, 5; T. Saxby (conductor), 6; T. Garard, 7; M. Saxby, 8. This was rung on the occasion of the Induction of the new rector, the Rev. J. P. Alcock.

ERITH (Kent).—On Friday, February 24th, at St. John-the-Baptist's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, in 26 mins. F. Cullem, sen., 1; J. Saxby, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; F. J. Cullem, 4; G. G. Conyard (conductor), 5; G. Cullem, 6; J. Garard, 7; H. Barber, 8.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, February 15th, the local company rang for practice at the parish church a 720 Cheapside Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman (conductor), 4; G. Marsden, 5; T. Lunn, 6. First 720 in the method by all except G. Marsden, who wishes to know if the same method has ever been reported in "THE BELL NEWS." Also on Sunday February 19th, for Divine Service, 720 each of Duke of York, and Arnold's Victory, by the above.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, February 19th, at St. Swithin's church, eight 8-scores of St. Dunstan's Doubles, and two of Grandsire (each called differently), in 40 mins. E. Pegler, 1; William Roberts, 2; William J. Sevier (conductor), 3; William T. Pegler, 4; George Taylor, 5; Ernest E. Berwick, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F♯.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, February 25th, at the Bede House (in the presence of the Rev. G. H. Hopkins), on handbells, a 360 of Oxford Bob. W. Pettit, 1; A. Martin, 2; A. Wright, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5-6.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; J. Crane, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; T. Salter, 7; T. Walters, 8. And on Sunday, February 19th, on handbells, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Salter, 1-2; H. Adams, 3; G. Salter, 4; H. Williams (conductor), 5-6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 26th, for Divine Service at St. St. Stephen's church, Rochester Row, in the evening, 1316 Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. J. Pryer, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Willshire, 3; T. S. Bell, 4; W. Carter, 5; H. T. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Cropley, 8.

MARLOW (Bucks).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday afternoon, February 14th, at the house of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. C. Truss, jun., 5-6; J. C. Truss, 7-8. Also 504 in the same method. C. Smith, 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. And on Friday, February 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), each part called differently, in 32 mins. H. Buckingham (conductor), 1-2; J. C. Truss, jun., 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6.

NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On Saturday evening, February 4th, 1888, for practice, by the Witton society, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's ten-part peal, and the first in the method by all. John Houghton (conductor), 1; William Forster (member of the Lancashire Association), 2; Samuel Forster 3; Thomas Forster, 4; Richard Chantler, 5; Thomas Moore, 6; Joseph Bell, 7; Samuel Moore, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. Time 23 minutes.

NORWICH.—On Tuesday, February 7th, the St. Peter's Mancroft Society met at St. Giles' church, and rung a 1008 of Bob Major, in 56 mins. A. G. Warnes, 1; E. Ward, 2; W. Bales, 3; F. H. Knights, 4; F. Knights, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6; J. Smith, 7; J. Skinner, 8. Also on Tuesday, February 21st, at the church of St. John's, Madder Market, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 24 mins. J. Smith, 1; E. Francis (composer), 2; F. Knights (conductor), 3; W. Bales, 4; G. Smith, 5; J. Skinner, 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. F. H. Knights, 1; E. Ward, 2; E. Francis, 3; J. Smith, 4; F. Knights (conductor), 5; J. Skinner, 6. And 360 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 12 mins. E. Ward, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. Francis, 3; W. Bales, 4; F. Knights (conductor), 5; J. Skinner, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 19th, at Holy Trinity church, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 14 mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; *J. Palmer, 2; H. Mason, 3; W. Bird, 4; W. Green, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. *First 360 in the method inside. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. H. Mason (conductor), 1; R. Bird, 2; J. Palmer, 3; W. Foxall, 4; W. Green, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6. And on Wednesday, February 22nd, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Green, 1; *J. Palmer, 2; R. Bird, 3; W. Foxall, 4; C. W. Bassano, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; W. Bird, 7; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 8. *First touch inside in the method. Also 416 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Foxall, 1; R. Bird, 2; H. Mason, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; H. Cartwright, 5; W. Green, 6; W. Bird, 7; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 8. First touch in the method on the tower bells by all.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 21st, at the parish church, the first half of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; J. Sholicar, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; W. Bentham (conductor), 5; W. B. Lloyd, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, February 23rd, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled, the local company rang 1036 Grandsire Triples, and three courses rang very slow, and the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to their respected tradesman, Mr. Lewis Ellery. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; D. Marment, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. W. Ryland, T. Ireland, and T. Wright, also assisted.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, February 17th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. W. T. Hutton, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; A. Barrett, 5; E. Bishop (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late William Walker, who died on the 14th inst., aged 72 years. The deceased had been a ringer at the the parish church for upwards of fifty years, and had rang 720's in twenty-one different Minor methods.

RHYL (Flints).—On Tuesday evening, February 21st, at St. Thomas' church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. *G. H. Bowden, 1; J. Wallis, 2; F. Hordley, 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Gamlin, 5; †F. Wallis (conductor), 6. The tenor (17¼ cwt.) was rung behind by J. P. Owen. *First 720 in any method. †First 720 as conductor. And on Tuesday, February 28th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. H. Bowden, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. D. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. J. Gamlin, 5; F. Wallis (conductor), 6.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 26th, for Divine Service, at St. Margeret's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Tulett, 1; A. Ring, 2; E. Price, 3; A. Osborn, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; M. Warwick, R.E. (conductor), 6. E. Price hails from Alseford.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 18th, at St. Giles' church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 26½ mins. J. Palmer, 1; W. Bird, 2; W. Green, 3; C. Beasley, 4; H. Mason, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells, also first by C. Beasley, and his first attempt.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Thursday, February 23rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. *H. Clayton, 1; *G. Heath, 2; *G. Burton, 3; *E. Chapman, 4; *A. Martin, 5; W. A.

Hall (conductor), 6. And on Monday, February 27th, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Heath, 1; A. Martin, 2; G. Burton, 3; *C. Green, 4; E. Chapman, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, February 21st, at the house of Mr. Gifford, Devizes Road, 1680 Bob Major, in 49 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; T. Blackbourn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; A. W. Barkus, 7-8.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday evening' February 21st, at the parish church, with the bells deeply-muffled' 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W, J. Pleasance, 4; W. Morris, 5; H. Saban, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Also with the bells half-muffled, a 504 in the same method. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; F. W. Tarling, 4; W. Morris, 5; W. J. Pleasance, 6; H. Saban, 7; P. Springham, 8. The above was rung as a token of respect to the memory of the late Corporal Joseph Vick, late of the 4th Light Dragoons, and who was one of the six hundred in the Balaclava charge. He had for some time past resided with his son at Sawbridgeworth, where he died on the 14th inst. The funeral (which was a military one), took place on Tuesday, the 21st inst.

WOODFORD (Northants).—On Monday evening, February 20th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, one 6-score eaeh of Grandsire Doubles, Canterbury Pleasure, and Bob Doubles; also two 6-scores of St. Simon's Doubles. B. Green, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Also one 6-score each of Grandsire Doubles, Canterbury Pleasure, and Bob Doubles. B. Green, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Tiney, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Also one 6-score of Canterbury Pleasure. B. Green, 1; W. Wilson, 2: J. Bunning, 3; W. Tiney, 4; T. Wilson (conductor), 5. And on Saturday, February 25th, one 6-score each of Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire Doubles. W. Wilson, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Tiney, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Also one 6-score of St. Simon's Doubles. W. Tiney, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Also 720 in the following methods: two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, two 6-scores of Canterbury Pleasure, one 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and one 6-score of St. Simon's Doubles. W. Tiney, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

On Tuesday, January 24th, at All Hallows church, a 336 of Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; — Carmichael, 3; A. Fox, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 6; W. Pye English, 7; G. Richards, 8. And on Sunday, January 29th, for service in the evening, 490 of Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. Grove, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; J. Waghorn sen., 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6; W. English, 7; G. Richards, 8. Also on Tuesday, January 31st, for practice, 256 Stedman Triples. J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 1; A. Hubbard, 2; H. A. Barnett, 3; T. C. Grove, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; W. Pye English, 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; G. Richards, 8. Also 336 of Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; J. Waghorn, 6; J. Waghorn jun., 7; W. Pye English, 8. And on Tuesday, February 7th, for practice, 256 of Stedman Triples. J. Waghorn jun. (conductor), 1; A. Hubbard, 2; — Carmichael, 3; T. C. Grove, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6; W. Pye English, 7; G. Richards, 8. And on Sunday, February 12th, in the morning, 490 of Oxford Bob Triples. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; H. A. Barnett, 3; T. C. Grove, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; W. Pye English, 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; J. Waghorn jun. (conductor), 8. And in the evening, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 41 mins. T. Hughes (first quarter-peal), 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6; W. Pye English, 7; J. Waghorn, jun., 8. Also on Thursday, at Christ Church, Southgate, 527 of Grandsire Major. T. Hughes, 1; A. H. Hubbard, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; T. C. Grove, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Pye English, 8. And on Sunday, February 19th, at All Hallows' church, Tottenham, for morning service, a 368 of Grandsire Major. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 4; J. Waghorn, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6; J. Waghorn jun., 7; W. Pye English, 8. And for evening service, 256 of Stedman Triples. J. Waghorn jun. (conductor), 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; W. Pye English, 6; G. Lucas, 7; G. Richards, 8. Also 320 of Grandsire Major. T. Hughes, 1; A. Hubbard, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; W. Pye English, 8. And on Sunday, February 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 42 mins. T. Hughes, 1; E. F. Strange (conductor), 2; A. Hubbard, 3; T. C. Grove, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; W. Pye English, 8.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

MR. MACKMAN'S HALF-PEAL.

SIR,—Notwithstanding Mr. Mackman's lucid (?) explanation with regard to the half-peal (?) of Court Bob Triples, I understand several are under the impression that it must have savoured somewhat of the "Reservoir Surprise," accounts of which we have lately seen.

Salisbury. HENRY D. ADAMS.

THE "JAMES RUDD" FUND.

SIR,—I am asked by Mr. James Rudd to tender to all the subscribers to the above fund his hearty and sincere thanks for their generous aid and sympathy in a time of distress. The total receipts to the fund has been £7 12s. 9d., out of which Mr. Rudd has received £4 18. 9d., leaving a balance of £2 14s. in hand, which will be paid him in weekly instalments of 2s. 6d. each, which will enable him to t'de over the spring fairly well, he having bought himself some boots, flannels, and other things, which he wanted, out of the money which he has received. In conclusion, I might add that Mr. Rudd is much the same in health, sometimes quite brave at others not able to get about. He manages to ring handbells with us sometimes, but can't keep even a small church bell up, his strength being nearly gone. Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for inserting in your valuable paper from week to week the receipts of the fund. W. IRELAND.

Victoria Road, Diss.

MR. WASHBROOK'S EXPLANATIONS.

SIR,—I see in "THE BELL NEWS" last week an announcement that the peal of Burton Superlative by me is false, well, as it is given, it is so, but the second M in the first part should be in the 5th course instead of the 4th as given, and the 3rd and 4th middles a course lower respectively, which brings the 3rd into 6th's place, instead of the 6th as given, and the number of the peal is not correct, as it should be 13,316, and with your permission, may I add, I gave you the above facts the week following the publication of the peal, but I suppose you overlooked it among other things, and may I take this opportunity of stating, that I hope the most masterly way in which Mr. Heywood has proved the impossibility of "Extents," has proved that my statements recently made regarding the "60 courses of Stedman Caters" and the 59 courses of Burton Superlative by me, is the extent of changes to be had in the method, as is also the case with Albion and other methods where singles cannot be introduced, as Mr. Heywood states is the case with the use of W's and H's, 11 courses being the extent. This extent is composed on the basis stated below: first write down the nine courses with the 6th at home, viz.: A W in the 1st, 4th and 7th courses, with full H's, and then use the M as a splicing bob, of course there is no other call you can use, as the B cannot be used in extents; it is easily seen by a composer where to put his splicing call to bring the bells he wants into 6th's place, and it will be seen if you use one M you must use three to bring you back to your original position. For instance, suppose you call a M in the first course, you put the 2nd in 6th's place, well, you can either use the full W's and H's as above stated, or only the H's or nothing but the splicing bob; in either case you will get the same course-end, were you to use a M and put the 4th in 6th's place, then you could treat in the same way, and the use of another M brings you back to the same place you started from; with these few facts any person could compose extents easily. J. W. WASHBROOK.

The newly consecrated Bishop-Suffragan of Shrewsbury, Sir Lovelace Stamer, will resign the archdeaconry of Stoke in order to set himself more free for his Episcopal duties. The Bishop of Lichfield has appointed the Rev. Ernald Lane, M.A., rector of Leigh, to be the new Archdeacon. Mr. Lane graduated at Balliol College, Oxford. in 1860, and afterwards held a Fellowship at All Souls' till 1879. In 1870 he was appointed to the rectory of Leigh, in the archdeaconry of Stoke. He is one of the Proctors in Convocation for the diocese of Lichfield, and he has identified himself with change-ringing in his parish.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, February 26th, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. Also a 120 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, February 28th, for practice, a 720 of Violet, in 24½ mins. E. Burtenshaw, 2; the others as before. Also a 360 of Superlative Surprise. E. Burtenshaw, 1; R. Moss, 2; S. Frost, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott (conductor), 5; C. Byde, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday last, the annual dinner of the above society took place at the York hotel, Waterloo Road, and was well attended by members and their friends, Mr. W. Baron, master of the society, presiding, Mr. H. S. Thomas occupying the vice-chair. Amongst the company present were the Rev. A. W. Jephson (vicar of S. John's), Messrs. R. T. Woodley, W. H. Daniell, F. L. Davies, S. G. Davies, W. H. L. Partington, J. Mansfield, C. E. Malim, J. M. Hayes, G. T. McLaughlin, W. H. L. Buckingham, G. W. Cartmel, W. Tyack, A. G. Thomas, — Taylor, G. Wild (sec.) and others. Matters affecting bodily sustenance being satisfactorily terminated, the cloth was removed, and the programme for the occasion was opened by the chairman calling on the company to testify their loyalty by drinking "The health of Her Majesty and the rest of the Royal Family."

Mr. TYACK proposed the toast of "The Waterloo Society." He said that the society had now been in existence for twenty years, had experienced its ups and downs, and he congratulated the members upon their present satisfactory standing. Mr. A. G. Thomas in reply complimented "The Waterloo Society" upon its general efficiency, which was exemplified by the peal rung that afternoon, to which he had listened with great pleasure, and could bear witness to the excellent striking.

Mr. W. H. DANIELL proposed the health of "The Vicar and churchwardens of S. John's," stating how gratified the ringers present felt at having the rev. gentleman amongst them, who thereby showed his interest in belfry affairs, and his desire to make the personal acquaintance of the ringers. Mr. Daniell also eulogised the character of the churchwardens.

The Rev. A. W. JEPHSON (who was received with acclamation), reciprocated the good wishes so kindly expressed by Mr. Daniell, and was very pleased to be amongst them that evening. He had from his youth up delighted in bells and bell-ringing, and one very great inducement in his taking the living of S. John's had been the fact that there was a good ring of eight in the church tower, and he hoped they might eventually increase it to ten. He would convey to the churchwardens the friendly sentiments they had expressed concerning them.

Mr. H. S. THOMAS called upon the company to toast "The officers," remarking that they could not find a better man as master than Mr. Baron; that the gathering on the present occasion was sufficient to show how Mr. Wild did his duty as secretary; that Mr. W. Baron jun., as steward, seemed following the example of his worthy father, and that Mr. Malim was in every respect a model treasurer.

The other toasts were "London and other ringing societies," "The visitors" and "'THE BELL NEWS' and other papers interested in the Exercise,"—the former being responded to by Mr. Boote of "THE BELL NEWS," who had the honour of making his first appearance in a company of ringers, and who hereby thanks those who were present for their very kind reception and encouraging attitude towards him. During the evening songs were sung by Messrs. Woodley, Rumbold, W. H. D. Porter, Swetman, H. Hopkins, H. W. Orchard, S. Baker, H. Partington, W. Baron, jun., and Tyack, recitations being also contributed. A course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells. G. Wild, 1-2; S. G. Davies, 3-4; H. Hopkins, 5-6; F. L. Davies, 7-8; H. L. Partington, 9-10. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was brought to a conclusion by the singing of the National Anthem. The day was memorable as the birthday of two ringers present, viz., Messrs. H. S. Thomas and J. M. Hayes, and who were wished "many happy returns" by their brother strings and friends.

SHUTTING UP THE LORD CHANCELLOR.—I visited a lunatic asylum the other day, and had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Julius Cæsar, the Emperor of the French, Sir Isaac Newton, and a gentleman who imagined that he was a ripe peach, and who wanted somebody to pick and eat him. Lunching afterwards with my good friend the resident physician, I heard several excellent stories which were suggested to my host by the delusions of some of those under his charge. There was once, it seems, an Irish Lord Chancellor, who was very fond of descending unexpectedly upon lunatic asylums in order to satisfy himself that they were properly conducted. He arrranged with some inspecting physician or other to meet him at Finglas Asylum on a given day, but, unfortunately, his secretary, who was a practical joker, overheard the conversation, and was wicked enough to see the superintendent of the asylum and to tell him that he was to expect the arrival at a certain time, in a carriage, of a patient who imagined himself to be a judge. The result was that, when the Lord Chancellor appeared, he was promptly taken charge of. "But," protested the great man, "surely there is some mistake; I am the Lord Chancellor, you know." "Oh yes," said the superintendent. "I know very well. We have three other Lord Chancellors here now." And the august visitor was shut up in a padded room until the inspecting physician arrived and caused him to be liberated.—*From "Cassell's Saturday Journal"* for March.

Church News.

The large east window of St. Peter and Paul, Deddington, Oxon, has been filled with stained glass by Kempe.

Prebendary Forrest, vicar of St. Jude's, Kensington, preached the Lent lecture at St. Alphage, London-wall, on Friday evening, February 24th, from Romans xiii, 21.

At St. Gabriel's, Warwick Square, lectures are delivered during Lent, at 4.30 p.m ou Sunday afternoons, by Dr. Edersheim, on "Some Difficulties of the Christian Belief." On Sunday next the subject will be "The Moral Aspects of the Forgiveness of Sins."

It has been decided to place a window at the east end of the new church of St. George's, Edgbaston, as a memorial of the Mission recently conducted in that parish by the Rev. Somersert Penefather, vicar of Jesmond, Newcastle.

Viscount Molesworth, rector of St. Petrock Minor, Cornwall, who was thrown from his horse when riding through Wadebridge on Saturday week, and who was taken up in an insensible condition, is now progressing favourably towards recovery.

At a meeting on Monday, the committee of the Central Council of Diocesan Conferences selected subjects for discussion, and fixed the date of the next full meeting for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 8th and 9th.

A meeting has been held at the Town Hall, Huntingdon, in aid of the Church House. The Earl of Sandwich was in the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Lieutenant Eardley Wilmot, R.N., organising secretary, and Archdeacon Vesey. A committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. A. Sparling, Mr. E. Bevan, the Rev. C. G. Hill, rector of Warboys, the Rev. H. H. Wyatt, rector of Conington, and others.

A meeting of the Rochester Diocesan Society was held on Monday, at 26 Great George-street, Westminster, the Bishop in the chair. Grants were made for the churches of St. Andrew's, Wandsworth, £300; St. Paul's, Kingston-hill, £185; and St. Michael's, Woolwich, £305; for the rent of the Pembroke College, Cambridge, Mission building, Walworth, £60; and for salaries of living agents for the March quarter, £1,054.

A quiet day for the clergy, conducted by the Rev. W. H. Disney, rector of Winwick, was held at St. Asaph Cathedral on Thursday, February 23rd. The following are the special preachers for the remaining Lenten services in the Cathedral:—March 2nd, the Rev. D. Richards, Bangor; March 9th, Canon Tonge, of St. Anne's, Manchester; March, 16th, Rev. W. B. D. Duggan, vicar of St. Paul's, Oxford; March 23rd, Canon Maclure, vicar of Rochdale.

The Rev. Grant E. Thomas, incumbent of Old St. Marylebone, writes that there are two centenaries this year connected with that church, which stands at the top of the High-street, St. Marylebone, and which was until 1817 the parish church. The first event was the baptism of Lord Byron, which took place on March 1, 1788. The other was the burial of the Rev. Charles Wesley, who was buried in the little churchyard on April 5, 1788. The foundation stone of the church was laid by Robert de Braybroke, Bishop of London, in 1400. It was rebuilt in the form it now stands in 1741. The interior of the original church may be seen in Hogarth's picture of the marriage of the Rake, painted in 1735.

On Thursday, February 23rd, the governors of the Clergy Orphan Corporation held their annual meeting at the offices of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. The report showed that the receipts from voluntary sources last year had been considerably less than those of the previous year, and that the expenditure had also been reduced both in the boys' and in the girls' schools. The invested capital of the corporation had, however, been increased by the sale of a portion of the society's property to the Marylebone Cricket Club for the extension of Lord's cricket ground. Many of the warmest friends of the society had been removed by death, among others Archdeacon Harrison, Prebendary Stock, and Sir G. B. Middleton.

It has been resolved that the Thring Memorial Fund shall be applied, first, to the erection of some monumental memorial of the late head master of Uppingham; and, secondly, to carrying out some bf the distinctive views on education held by him. In illustration of these resolutions the following suggestions have been made:—1. A monument with statue, bust, medallion, or other likeness of the late head master. 2. The building, in connection with the above, of a transept at the south side of the school chapel, or of a mortuary chapel at the west end. 3. The purchase for the school of the gardens (Fairfield). 4. A library or museum. 5. A scholarship or prize. The final decision as to the application of the fund will rest with the general committee.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Time's changes pass o'er us,
Yet hope smiles before us."

The perusal of last week's issue would almost give one the impression that it was a veritable "festive number." The number of reports which it gives of convivial and business gatherings, at any rate, affords satisfactory evidence that our friends throughout the country cannot be accused of lethargy, but on the contrary, are active in the good object (so aptly put by Mr. C. H. Hattersley at Rotherham) of promoting "unity, perseverance, and sociability amongst ringers." Success betide it!

* * * * *

Surely ringers must be a long-lived race. Last week I referred to the 77th birthday of a Liverpool member; this week we read of two more commemorations of a similar character—the 74th of Mr. Ashcroft, of Eccles, and the 82nd of Mr. Jesse Holt, of Mirfield; in addition to which, our Wellingborough friends have been "drinking the healths" of two venerable brothers, Messrs. Harley and Youle.

* * * * *

I was sorry to read that our Mirfield friends were unsuccessful in their date touch in honour of their veteran's birthday, especially as the old gentleman rung the treble. It is at all times disappointing when one's ringing "comes to grief," but it is particularly so on an occasion like this; and, though I have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Holt personally, I should have been glad had I been able to congratulate him on the successful completion of his birthday touch. Nevertheless, it is a good old old maxim—"Take the will for the deed," and let us hope the many good wishes expressed in these cases will be fully realized.

* * * * *

The frequent recurrence of these celebrations in honour of veteran ringers' birthdays, however, somewhat naturally gives rise to thoughts of another character. These men are essentially of the past generation. Their earliest experiences of ringing were amidst a state of things in connection with the art of a vastly different character to what they see in their declining years. They have lived in days when the name of ringer was a word of reproach, and the bearer thereof a being to be shunned by what was termed "respectable society." They will remember the time when "ringer" and everything disreputable, almost were synonymous terms. They will be able to tell of the period when the Exercise, in its social aspect, was as deep in the slough of despond as it were possible to be; when its horizon was of such a darkness that the few bright exceptions which here and there shewed themselves. only served to make the prevailing blackness all the more visible.

* * * * *

On the other hand, they have witnessed the commencement of a new and better state of things. They will have observed the rise and growth of our now successful and vigorous organisations. They have seen the stigma attached to the name of ringers wiped out, and clergymen and gentlemen of education, wealth, and high social position not only fraternising with our brethren, but also mastering the science and taking their places in the belfry. They have lived to see bishops and other high dignitaries of the Church meeting the ringers at their gatherings, speaking words of praise, and bidding our brethren God speed. They have also viewed the commencement of the gradual but sure extinction of the old "pulley-hauley" belfry-cum-taproom round ringers and call-change artistes; and the clearing out of belfries of the cobwebs and dirt of ages.

* * * * *

My friends, is there not a lesson to be learnt from all this? While we have of late years so happily emerged from darkness and gloom into bright sunshine, will not the thought arise that as each one of these old veteran's birthdays comes round, they are getting so much nearer the completion of their life's peal? That in like manner, so it will be the case with us who are now in the flush of youth or in the enjoyment of prime, robust manhood, should we be spared to reach the "sere and yellow leaf," when our younger brethren of the future may ring their jubilant peals in honour of our birthdays, as we do now for our elders. Then may we, like them, be able to reflect on the still greater improvement which has taken place, and to think that we have faithfully performed our part in this good work which has so well progressed hitherto. May we, in short, remembering these things, always strive with the object of leaving the Exercise better than we found it.

* * * * *

It is most sincerely to be hoped that the words of Canon Blunt and your editorial remarks in reference thereto will lead to a better state of things in Durham. That the belfry of one of our noblest and most historic cathedrals should be in the state described is truly disgraceful. Here, however, is a good work placed in the hands of that county Association to do, and which I am confident they are fully capable of performing. Let them approach the Dean and Chapter on the subject, and should they find this body not amenable to reason, then bring some influence to bear upon them and wake them up from their supineness in a manner not to be disregarded. And remembering the two words so full of meaning—Patience, and Perseverance—do not let difficulties or disappointments cause them to lose heart, but let every obstacle serve to arouse renewed energy, which will not flag until the object be attained, and the bells of Durham Cathedral once more "summon the faithful" in a manner and amidst surroundings worthy of that famous edifice.

* * * * *

Three more peals proved false, and one of them actually rung! Is not this really too bad? Week after week we are met with the statement that such-and-such peal is false, till the thing is getting quite monotonous in its regularity. We talk about umpiring peals rung, in order to prove the *bona fide* character of their accomplishmet, but is it not equally desirable—nay, more essentially necessary—that new compositions sent for insertion should be accompanied by some proof that they have been carefully examined by some competent authority and at least found to be true? Some of these "original" compositions which appear are—in sooth—poor enough in their scientific and musical qualities to make one disgusted, without the additional feature of their turning out false into the bargain. If there is anything needed to bring that page of "The Bell News," which our Editor kindly allows to ringers who are anxious to shine as composers, into contempt, there can be nothing more fitly calculated to accomplish this very undesirable object than the present weekly occurrence of these admissions of false touches and peals. To my mind it is absolutely necessary for the good of the Exercise that some steps should be taken to stop this sort of thing. Have we no brother string able and willing enough to undertake the supervision and analysation of the compositions which appear? Or, better still, who will volunteer to examine such compositions if submitted to him by the composers previous to sending them for insertion? At the same time, I maintain that no person should attempt to compose until he has shewn himself thoroughly well able to prove the truth of what he composes. Perhaps if a trifling charge was made for the admission of these compositions, an idea I happen to know was strongly pressed upon our Editor by the late lamented Jasper Snowdon, composers would be more careful. May I suggest to him the advisability of establishing such a system. A fee of sixpence per peal say, would not inhibit clever composers from publishing the results of their labours, though it would act as a deterrent perhaps in necessary cases. What do our friends Mr. Dains, Mr. Carter, Mr. Hattersley and others say to this?

* * * * *

Mr. Peacock writes substantiating the correctness of the report of their peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Mirfield, which I noted last week with reference to the time in which it was rung. Of course, those who rung the peal ought to be the best authority on that score, but I am still of opinion that three hours and twelve minutes seems an incredible short time for a peal of 5200 Kent Treble Bob Royal with a ring the tenor of which is over 33 cwt. How the tenor ringer managed to work his bell to the tune of 27 changes per minute passes my comprehension. But if ever I should travel by way of Mirfield I shall most assuredly be glad to hear such a specimen of quick ringing.

Free Lance.

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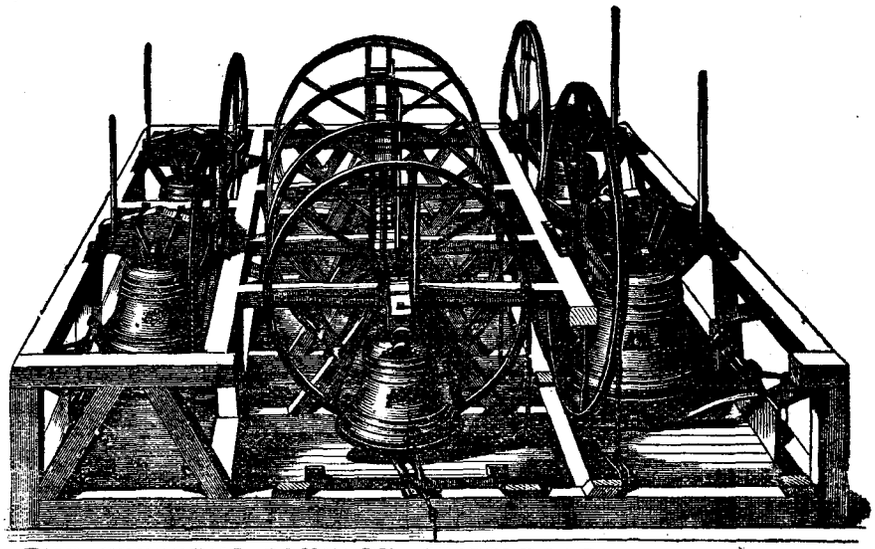

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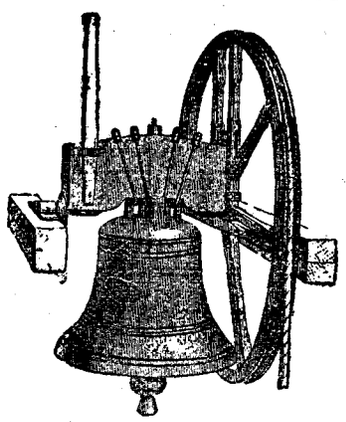

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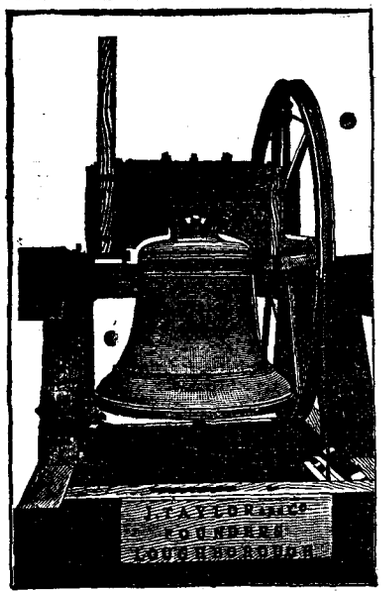

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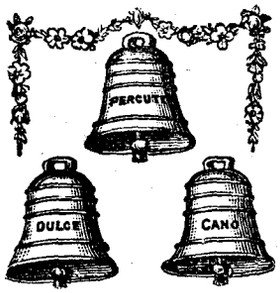

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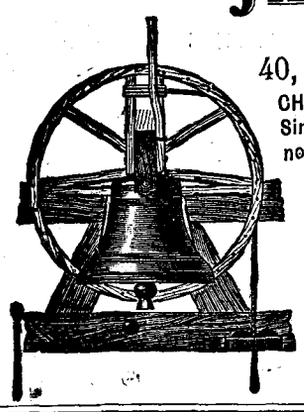

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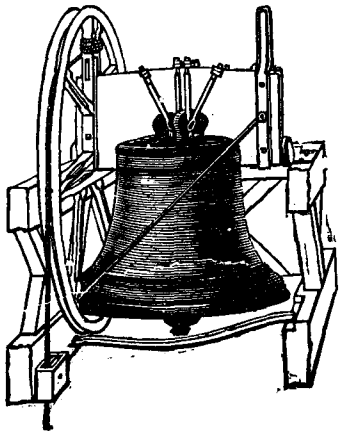

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THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.—EXTRAORDINARY LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

THE 70th anniversary of the opening of the above bells was celebrated on Monday, March the 5th. On Sunday, being the "real" anniversary, touches of Stedman Caters were rang for service in the afternoon, it being also the usual ringing Sunday, viz.: the first in the month. It being proposed to attempt a long peal of Stedman Caters early in the morning, most of the long peal men were present at the Sunday ringing. After evening service some touches were rung by way of practice. The next morning, at a little past 7 o'clock, the call-bell was to be heard, the worthy steeple-keeper being at his post first. Very soon afterwards all the men were stationed at their respective ropes, and at 7.45 the conductor called "go," the beat of the bells seemed to be got the moment changes began, going at twenty-seven to the minute, which continued from beginning to end, nothing of any consequence happening during the whole of the peal.

About two o'clock the best of the ringing was heard, the 6th coming into position behind the 9th at that time, the bells doing justice to their founders, "Mears and Stainbank," and the course-ends rolling up like clockwork. Course after course went by in the same manner, and when the conductor cried the welcome words "that's all," was ended one of the finest struck peals anyone ever had a wish to hear. When the ringers came outside, they were heartily congratulated by Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, Mr. W. Cooter, of London, Mr. C. Hounslow, of Oxford, Mr. Musty, of Cheltenham, Mr. W. Newell, of Reading, etc.

At four o'clock the inner man was replenished, after which came the usual social evening, the Rev. F. E. Robinson in the chair. In addition to the usual toasts had on these occasions, some capital songs were sung by Messrs. Newell, Hallett, Bennett, and other friends, and courses of Caters were rung by Messrs. Hounslow, Phillott, Baker, White, Musty and Washbrook. The next morning finished up the festival with a peal of Surprise Major, and every one seemed to think that the Appleton people did justice to their anniversary.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

On Monday evening, February 20th, Mr. Samuel Fulcher, a member of the Quex Park and Royal Cumberland Societies, died somewhat suddenly of heart disease at his residence, Westgate-on-Sea. The funeral took place on Saturday, February 25th, at the Margate Cemetery, and in accordance with the wish of deceased, the coffin, covered with wreaths of flowers, was borne to the grave by G. Willshire, A. Sayer, E. Golder, T. B. Reed, jun., L. Willshire, and J. J. Bristow. The service was very impressively read by Mr. Blandford (congregational) who added a short address, stating that deceased had been a ringer and that if he had rung with a right motive he would be enabled to take part in the glorious hymn of "Ring the bells in Heaven." L. Willshire, E. Tibble, S. Jarman, and G. Willshire then rang a good course of Grandsire Triples, and after expressing their deep sympathy for the bereaved widow, bad farewell to the remains of their late brother-ringer. On Friday, March 2nd, by permission of H. H. Powell Cotton, two touches of 500 each Grandsire Triples, were rung with the bells half-muffled, conducted by Leon Willshire.

THE WEIGHT OF TENORS.

As an example of the curious way in which the weight of an average tenor varies, the case of that at Twickenham parish church is worth quoting. The weight of this bell has been at at one time or another variously reported at from 19 cwt. to 22 cwt., but on being recently taken down preparatory to recasting, it was found to only scale something under 17 cwt. A characteristic of these traditions is that they rarely err on the small side.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.

Visiting this village recently (says a correspondent of a local paper) I was gratified to find that the tone of the splendid old tenor bell was fully brought out by the new hour hammer of the "Jubilee Clock," instead of the mournful "thud" as of old. This bell, which is four feet and one inch in diameter, was cast in 1516, and is encircled by an important inscription in Old English black letter, and is here given in full with the translation: "Intonat e celis vox campanœ Michaelis, Deus propicius esto aiabus Ricardi Goddard: quondam de Upham, Elizabeth et Elizabeth uxorum ejus ac diabus oim liberorum et parentum suorum qui hanc camparian fieii fecerunt anno dui MCCCCC. XVI." "There sounds forth from heaven the voice of the bell of Michael. O God be propitious to the souls of Richard Goddard, late of Upham: Elizabeth and Elizabeth his wives and upon the souls of their children and parents, who have caused this bell to be made in the year of our Lord 1516." The eighth bell in the peal of ten at Christchurch College, Oxford, contains exactly the same curious inscription (given some time since in this paper) as the sixth in the Aldbourne peal, the tenor of the College bells being about forty hundred-weight. Below is given an account of the four "Grandsire" peals ever known to have been rung at Aldbourne, the ringers of the treble, second, third, sixth and seventh, on March 20th and 27th, 1837, are still residents of this village, and no doubt can tell many an interesting belfry tale of the "good old times." No time seems to have been recorded for these peals (as is now usual), but it is quite probable that just over three hours would be the extent, as in 5001 "Caters" the time rarely exceeds three and a quarter hours. "May 3. 1791, was rung 5040 Grandsire Tripples, by John North, tripple; Wm. Gwym, 2; Edne. Witts, 3; Levi Pizzie, 4; Wm. Lawrence, 5; (called ye Bobbs)—Broome Witts, 6; Jas. Wells, 7; Jos. Orchard, tenr. January 21, 1806, was rung the peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, by John North, tripple; Levi Pizzie, 2; Stephen Wentworth, 3; Thomas Shepherd. 4; (called the Bobbs)—Mark Brown, 5; James Bridgeman, 6; William Flower, 7; Joseph Dennis, tennor. The peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung March 20, and again March 27th, 1837, by James Barrett, triple; James Palmer, 2; Wm. Taylor, 3; (called the Bobs)—John Baxter, 4; Wm. Andrews, 5; Joseph Palmer, 6; James Smith, 7. March 20, George Barrett; March 27, John Beesley, tennor.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday last, March 3rd, in the King Street Schoolroom, Dudley, which was well represented by members from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Coseley, Chaddesley, Cradley Clent, Dudley, Netherton, Stourbridge, Tipton, Worcester, etc. The Rev. Dr. Cosens, Vicar of Dudley and Rural Dean, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Vicar of Netherton. Letters of apology were read from the President, the Rev. Dr. Gott, Dean of Worcester, the Rev. W. R. Carr (Worcester), and E. J. Hall (Bromsgrove).

The usual business being transacted, a draft report was read for the past year, and adopted, a very good suggestion from the rev. chairman being added thereto. The auditors' report was received, which showed that the Association financially was not quite so good as last year. It was then unanimously resolved that the annual meeting be held at Worcester on Easter Monday. Durring the afternoon the following rang (on St. Thomas's bells) 1061 changes of Grandsire Caters. J. Perrins, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; J. Fellows, sen., 3; A. Beddall, 4; W. R. Small, 5; W. Micklewright, 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; J. Broad, 8; J. Smith, 9; E. Gilbert, 10. Messrs. Perrins, Broad, and Gilbert hail from Chaddesley; Pardoe and Small from Tipton; Beddall from Brierley Hill; Smith from Netherton; Fellows, Micklewright and Spittle from Dudley. Several other touches of Grandsire Triples and Major and Bob Triples were rung during the afternoon. The rest of the evening was pleasantly spent at the house of Mr. E. Fellows, "Bee Hive" Inn, with the handbells.

WANTED.—A pair of small bells, for striking quarters in a turret clock; should weigh together about 2 cwt.—Address, stating size, note and price, E.D.M., Lambrook, Bracknell.

THE ODDITIES OF PARISH CLERKS.

[The following interesting paper, the composition of the Rev. W. S. MacKean, curate of St. Mark's Easton, was read by that gentleman at the weekly meeting of the St. Mark's Men's Church Society, recently.]

BEFORE we discuss the oddities of the parish clerk it may be desirable to look into the meaning of the word "clerk," and then to take a glance at the parish clerk's origin, and to see what his office and duties were.

It seems that in olden days there were several clergymen attached to all our larger and more important churches, and these clergy were under the inspection and care of the rector or his representative, who for this reason was styled a prelate—that means a man preferred, or placed over others. The term now-a-days is only applied to bishops. Well, these assistant clergy were called chaplains, parish vicars, or parish priests. In the present day they are called curates—that means men who have the cure or care of souls. In olden times, as in many of our modern English churches, there was generally more than one altar or holy table, and the duty of the clergy was to celebrate very frequently the Holy Communion—the solemn memorial before God and man of our Lord's death—and to assist the rector in saying or singing the services in church. But besides the three principal orders of clergy—bishops, priests, and deacons—there were others in lower or inferior orders. For instance, there were sub-deacons, readers, singers, exorcists, and ostiaries. All these different grades of church workers had their several duties to perform in the church, and, whether ordained or unordained, were all included in the term "clerks" or "clergy," a word which comes from the Greek word *cleros*, a lot or portion: they being regarded as of all others the Lord's lot or portion. All through the early and mediæval times this word "clerk" may be traced, and at last, before the Reformation became of very wide application indeed, even the bishop's menial servants being considered as belonging to this class—many of whom were really in minor orders. In modern times the word "clerk" in its ecclesiastical sense is confined to those actually in Holy Orders, with the one familiar exception of the parish clerk, and an occasional use of the word in Cathedral choirs. The equally familiar business use of the word clerk comes down from the time when most of the learning of the world was confined to the clergy. Hence the word clerk in a business point of view means a "scholar" or "writer." Shakspere, *e.g.*, uses the word clerks in this sense in his Henry VIII., ii., 2—

> All the clerks,
> I mean, the learned ones, in Christian kingdoms,
> Have their free voices.

In primitive and mediæval times, as we have seen, all who had any special office to perform in the House of God were termed clerks or clergy, and they were recognised by the Church as workers, and they had the Church's mission in doing their work, no matter how humble and trivial that work might seem. For instance, to take the lowest of the inferior orders—the ostiaries—their duty was to attend to the doors of the church, to ring the bells, etc., duties now generally performed by the modern sexton. Then another order or rank of church workers was the singers—called lay clerks or choirmen in later times, and corresponding to the order of Levites in the Old Testament times (2 Chronicles, v. 12). There would be several of these singers in every large parish, and it is very probable that there was one of the singers or choirmen whose duty it was to be constantly present at every service which was celebrated by the parish clergy, to say or sing the responses, or the leader or representative. This individual, who often did duty for the absentee singers, lay clerks, or choirmen, came to be called in course of time the parish clerk. So that you see the gentleman whose oddities we will talk about presently is really the representative man of the older order of lay clerks or singers, or choirmen, of the parish, and is therefore a very ancient officer of the church. This is confirmed by the rubrics of the Prayer-book, which several times mention the "minister and clerks," or "the priest and clerks," and which once, in the marriage service, besides speaking of them in the plural, as engaged in the saying or singing of the Psalms, also directs that the bridegroom shall lay on the book "the accustomed duty to the priest and clerk," using the word in the singular number. The duties of the clerk are to assist the clergy in saying and singing Divine Service (either as one of a choir or by himself, or as a leader of the congregation) by singing or saying the responses. He ought, properly also to take the leading place in singing the Psalms, anthem, and hymns, but is rarely qualified for such a duty. In all the minor offices of the church not usually celebrated with a congregation, it is also his duty to perform the same part, as at marriages and burials. The clerk often takes the place of the sexton in duties connected with the vesting of the clergy, the preparation of the altar for Holy Communion, etc., and in small churches the two offices are frequently held by one and the same person. The word sexton, I may remark in passing, is a corruption of sa-cristan, an official who has charge of the *sacra* or things attached to a specific church, such as vestments, cushions, books, boxes, tools, vessels, and so on.

"So far so good," as the little boy said when he had finished the first pot of his mother's jam.

We now arrive at another point—"the oddities of the parish clerk." An old clergyman, who had in his day a great deal to do with this functionary, writes:—

"The first parish clerk with whom I ever came in contact was a character which has now disappeared, and which, when I look back, seems as if it never could have existed. I was ordained—oh! how many, many years ago it was—to a seaside curacy. There were two churches, about a mile apart, and I had to walk along the cliffs to get from one village to the other. In the winter it was often quite dark when the afternoon service was over, and I set out on my return home. The path by the cliffs was narrow and dangerous by daylight; in the dark, it was impassable without a light. I used, therefore, to take with me a lantern, which I gave into the clerk's keeping when I went into church. Now this said clerk was a gaunt, grey old man, who had lived all his life amongst seafaring people, though without having been himself at sea, by force of example had become as one of them. Before I had been in my curacy long, I found that most of the men were smugglers, and the clerk the prime mover on shore of the whole gang; and the way I found it out was this. Several times I had noticed that as I was in the middle of my sermon the church door would open, and a strange face would peep in; then in a minute one of the congregation would steal silently out, then another, and another, till, of the usual small assembly, the clerk and one or two more would be the only ones left. I could not help observing that on these occasions the clerk could scarcely keep himself in his seat, and that his hands nervously handled the lantern, which for convenience he had concealed under his desk. In a few Sundays, however, the end came. I suppose, as I was a new comer, he was afraid at first to do what he did at last. One Sunday afternoon, just as I had got well into my discourse—sermons in those days lasted five and forty minutes, and were not much appreciated unless they contained plenty of firstlies, secondlies, thirdlies, etc.—a head popped in at the door; and whether there was a richer cargo to run than usual, I know not, but with the appearance of the head, a finger beckoned. One by one the congregation got up and went. By custom grown more bold, I suppose, they went with more noise than usual. Still my sermon went on, the clerk got more and more fidgety, till at last, standing up, and holding up the lantern to me in the pulpit, he whispered in his softest voice, 'Will this be 'nuff, maester, to light 'ee home?' It is needless to say that I brought my sermon to an abrupt conclusion, and that for the future, when I saw a face look in at the door, and the congregation begin to go, I cut my discourse short, and dismissed those who remained with my blessing. When the old clerk got to know me better, he told me all the mysteries of his craft; how a cargo was run,—in what way the ship was signalled, and how the Excise of the period were done; but I could never pursuade him that his office of church clerk and defrauding his Majesty's Customs were not quite consistent. Poor old clerk, his smuggling days are over long ago; but if he did nothing worse, as the offence was in those days esteemed, than run a few kegs of brandy, we may fairly say he rests in peace."

The churchwarden of a country parish writes that "it was disgraceful the way things used to be neglected in churches. He was at Tetherby church one Sunday afternoon, and when it was time to sing 'My soul doth magnify the Lord,' there was no sign or sound from the organ. Tetherby is a large church, and the clergyman being a good way off, and rather blind, could not see the state of affairs up in the organ gallery, so he called out in a loud whisper to the parish clerk, 'Mr. Turgoose! Mr. Turgoose! Why does not the organ begin?' And then old Turgoose roared out so that everyone could hear him, 'It weeant goo, sir, the paipes is cleaned boonged oop wi' mook.' What do you think of that for a parish clerk?"

Some of the anecdotes of the old-fashioned parish clerk are witty, but sometimes they have just a flavour of profanity. "You should come to our church, man," said a parish clerk of a proselytising turn, 'when me and the parson does the cursing of a Hash Wednesday, Lor,' ow we does give it to em."

A strange clergyman doing duty for an absent friend inquired of the parish church in the vestry how (in some small particulars), the service was conducted. The information was given, and the clerk concluded by observing, "And you, sir, must please to say the 'Glories be's,' and I will say the 'Asetwasses.'" Such was the description of the Gloria common to parish clerks.

Some of the anecdotes, again, have a vein of surliness, if not of shrewdness. In a remote village of the county of Gloucester, notice had been given of a wedding, and the lady and her friends duly arrived, but the bridegroom did not put in an appearance. After waiting until the clock struck twelve, the bride left the church, when the clerk, a cross-grained old bachelor, remarked, "There be always three people ready for a wedding—the parson, the clerk, and the 'ooman."

He is not always a sound Scripturist. A parish clerk who was showing a visitor over a church, directed his attention to a two-light

stained glass window that had recently been placed there in memory of a deceased couple. The figures were those of Moses and Aaron. "There they be, sir, but they don't much 'fature' the old couple," said the clerk, who regarded the figures as likenesses of the deceased lady and gentleman.

But the old gentleman always had a sense of the democratic necessities of public worship. The officious wife of a rector thus addressed a clerk of the old style: "I wish, Mr. Jones, you would not shout the responses, and that you would read your verses of the Psalms a little more quietly, like the rector does. And oh, please in the Litany do not say 'Spear us, good Lord,' it does make the people laugh. 'Never you trouble yourself about the Litany, ma'am,' replied Jones. 'If I reads like the rector, every soul in the church would be asleep long afore we gets there.'"

Some years ago at a village church in Wilts, the barrel organ which led the choir on Sundays, made some fearful and ghastly sounds during morning service, by reason of the damp having affected some of its interior economy. The squire sent for the organist (who was also the village carpenter), and expressed his fear that the afternoon service must be got through without the aid of the organ. "No, squire, don't be afeered; there's them three big girls, Keziah Hawkins, Julia Lumage, and Agatha Coles, they'll follow the organ, go where a wull."

Of mere mistakes there is, of course, a plentiful crop, and very ludicrous too they often were. In the evening Psalms for the last day in the month these words occur; "Beasts and all cattle, worms and feathered fowls.' One old fellow would always read them in this way; 'Basteses and all cattul, worms and veathered vouls.' The same old fellow instead of saying 'Stand in awe, and sin not,' would repeat 'Stand in *a we*, and sin not,' and nothing would persuade him what the three letters a-w-e really spelt. Then again one verse used to bring tears into some sensitive people's eyes every time that it recurred; and its repetition never took away the ridiculous sound of the old fellow's interpretation. The words of the Psalm are: 'There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan whom thou hast made to take his his pastime therein.' The clerk, at the top of a by no means soft or pleasant voice, said, 'Thur go the ships, and thur's that *lively thing*, whom thou's made take hee's bastime thurin.'" The poor man's education had not cost much.

The parish clerk of a village in the south of England was in great request as an umpire at cricket matches. One hot Sunday he fell asleep at the commencement of a long prayer. He woke up at the conclusion, and instead of saying Amen, shouted at the top of his voice "Over!"

A parish clerk had to give out the following notice, "A man has gone to sea, his wife therefore asks the prayers of the congregation." He left out the comma, and read "A man has gone to see his wife, therefore asks the prayers of the congregation."

Being present at a country village in Somerset, where the clerk was elderly, and the church somewhat dark, during the psalms he, after commencing a verse and reading it half through twice, eventually gave it up as a bad job, and, turning to the congregation, in broad Somersetshire dialect said, "Goo on, goo on, I can't zee; doan't 'ee wait for I."

And of mere eccentricities—not always amiable—the number is not fewer; the following dialogue explains itself:—

Rector: "I didn't see you in church this afternoon, Jasper."

Clerk: "Why, bless you, sir, I was there, sure enough."

Rector: "No, you were not. I looked all around the church for you, and when I came out I saw you leaving 'The Brown Cow.'"

Clerk: "Well, sir, if I was'nt there myself, my religious principles was there."

An old clerk had lately been a porter at an important junction station, and was well known to many travellers by the stentorian tones in which he announced that all were to change carriages. Happening to fall asleep in church, his neighbour roused him just as the benediction was pronounced, of course at the end of the service. He awoke with a start, and to the consternation of the congregation, shouted, "All change here."

A parish clerk was assisting a clergyman to robe before the service commenced, and said to him, "Please sir, I am deaf. 'Indeed my good man,' says the curate; 'then how do you manage to follow me during the service?'"

"Why, sir," 'says the clerk,' "I look up, and when you shuts your mouth, I opens mine."

If one had to search for clerks of the most advanced type, I suppose the place to go would be to some far western neighbourhood. Devon and Cornwall have always been noted for these fussy and uneducated personages; and there, perhaps, they have still a lingering existence. In the more populous parts of England they have been pushed aside by advancing manners and tastes. There are not many clerks to be destroyed now. Common sense has generally done away with the duet between the parson and that functionary, and if there is not a decent choir, at all events the congregation now make the responses. Still here and there the old stamp of clerk remains. I will give you two decided specimens who were living only a very few years ago. One of these was at an important parish church in the suburbs of London. A clergyman tells us:—"The curate was harassed and overworked, and one Sunday he asked me to say afternoon prayer and take some baptisms for him. I consented willingly, and that afternoon went through one of the most trying scenes that it has ever been my lot to undergo since I have been ordained. I had only been in the church once before, at a confirmation, and the cold oppressiveness of that service and ceremony prepared me in some way for what I should experience. What happened, however, exceeded all my apprehensions. When I went into the vestry, a fussy stout man, something between an idle cobbler and a station-master at a very small station, presented himself. 'Most time to go in—here's the surplice.' I put the surplice on. It was large enough for three clergymen, and I had much difficulty in finding my hands, and when I walked it was at the imminent risk of tripping up and falling flat on my face. However, I managed to put on a hood, and then the fussy man produced what he called a scarf—a long broad silk band. Not liking its appearance, and being already overburdened with clerical garments, I meekly said (for I was much afraid of the fussy functionary), 'I don't wear that sort of thing.' 'But everyone doos.' 'I don't, I said, still meek.' 'But you must.' 'I don't,' this time a little more positively. 'But you must; everyone as comes here doos." Now, I don't like to be bullied. Naturally, of a meek temperament, if bullied, I wax determined, so I said firmly 'I shall not,' and turned away. That point settled, his clerkship observed, 'Time to go in. I goes first; you give out the hymns. Four baptisms after second lesson. Now then!' Off he trudged, and I followed. Having been duly ushered into a box, and the door shut and fastened, having duly said my prayer, I began the service. The congregation consisted of some school children, here and there a servant in the high box pews, and in the gallery two or three singers, who sang the canticles in a gentle kind of way, as if they had had too much dinner, to a very loud and spasmodic organ accompaniment, as of an organ that had been beered, instead of oiled, about the pedals. Things progressed very fairly, till after the collect for the day. True, the clerk had all the responses to himself, and sometimes he forgot them. He was out of sight, down below somewhere, so that I could not see what position or state he was in. After the collect for the day, however, came a loud, and as if a waking-up, Amen; and just as I proceeded to begin the second collect, a hand unseen, from the side somewhere, pulled my surplice, and a sleepy voice half whispered 'You be get too far;' and then, as I took no notice, but went on, the same voice, in a more wakeful tone, added, 'No, you bean't, though; go on;' and the voice and hand retreated somewhere down below, where I suppose it had been before. Then came the baptisms, in which, what with the old fellow's homeliness of manners and the squalling of the babies, there was a most unpleasant want of reverence. When one of the sponsors was going off before the service was over, the clerk indecorously called to her all down the church, 'Here, you be to come back.' Well, I never saw that old clerk again, nor do I wish to do so; but I know that in the vestry after the service was over, he charged two shillings for each baptism, and explained his conduct in church by saying he thought I had got beyond the third collect and forgotten the hymn."

The second specimen was clerk of the church of which I myself was for some years vicar. When I entered on the living, I would willingly have got rid of the man if I could; for besides being of not the best of characters, he was very deaf, and continually saying "Amen" at the wrong times and wrong places. However, I could not get rid of him myself, and the Bishop refused to interfere; although I reported his clerkship for turning up one Ash Wednesday with a black eye. However, I shelved the old fellow by putting him in the choir, where, after vainly trying to say "Amen" when the choir sang it, his voice was drowned, and at last he subsided into silence. There he is now, and will, I suppose, remain, a clerk in name, but not in sound, until his life's end.

And now I come to my last clerk. I only came into possession of him a few weeks ago. He is seventy years old. What he has been in years past, I know not; but of this I am quite sure, that he never has, and never will, make any blunders in the responses, for the first thing he said to me on my arrival in the parish was, "Doanee tak no notus o' mee. I'm a poore ign'rant ould fella. I can't zay it ater'ee, for I was na'er larned to read."

Even so far back as 300 years ago there seems to have been a troublesome parish clerk in the north of England. Upon an old scrap of paper in one of the consistorial records of the Episcopal Court of Durham, is the following complaint from the minister at Tweedmouth respecting a parish clerk at Berwick. There is no date to the information, but evidence exists to show that it must have been written between 1591 and 1594. The complaint runs thus:—"The information against Stephen Hudspeth, your humble servant Patrick Smith, minister at Tweedmouth. Firstly, he is nominated only by a part of the parish, and sundry of those are

fanatics, keepers of conventicles, and will neither hear the word, nor receive the sacrament according to the Church of England, but frequents factious meetings. Secondly, he, the said Stephen, to my knowledge has not communicated these twelve years bygone. Thirdly, he did not communicate at Easter last, when he saw others receive it. Fourthly, he can neither read distinctly, neither can he sing any at all, but renders the worship ridiculous, and makes cuvynant against the Church of England for permitting such men to have office in the church. Fifthly, he sometimes stops in the middle of a verse when he cannot read the word, as all the parish can testify. Sixthly, he affirmed before all the parish that he was more qualified to be clerk than I was to be minister; and he, upon the 27th April last, made a great disturbance in the church before all the people convened at that time, by pulling the surplice almost out of my hand, and said that no person should get liberty to put it over my head but himself. Lastly at Easter, he stopt in the middle of a verse, and would not sing. All these I article against him, and all these I testify to be true." Beneath the above the worthy minister of Tweedmouth adds:—"After the inhibition was published, yet he continued in acting as clerk, and will not be discharged, but contemns the authority of the court, and intends to continue so."

In the next case a dean is more the oddity than the parish clerk. It is said that Dean Swift was once at church when nobody was present but himself and the clerk, and he began the service by saying, "Dearly beloved Roger, the Scripture moveth you and me in sundry places," etc.

The parish clerk's attempt at teaching were not always brilliant. Lord Wriothesley Russell once told the present vicar of St. Nicholas, Durham, that when he first went to live at one of his estates in the country, he went out one afternoon to see what kind of teaching was given to the children. It was in the very early days of Sunday schools. He found the little ones assembled in the church porch listening to the parish clerk, who appeared to be diligently engaged in teaching them spelling. After "school" was over he took the man aside and asked him, "Can you not do something more for the children than this on Sunday? Surely spelling is taught in the day school?" "But, my lord," replied the clerk, "they be all Bible words I was teachin' of 'em." "Why, I heard you ask them to spell 'magazine,' surely that isn't a Bible word?" "Isn't it, my lord? Well, if m-a-g-i-c-i-a-n don't spell 'magazine,' what do it spell?"

My object in this lecture has not been to hold up anyone to ridicule, but to throw a little light upon days gone by. It is interesting to know something of the habits and customs of our forefathers. It is well to know something of the wonderful past, and how men lived and acted in a less refined, less civilised, and less educated age than our own. The oddities of the parish clerk may raise a smile in the present day, but there is no doubt many of them acted up to the light and information they possessed—quietly and faithfully performing their duties to the best of their ability.

You all know the beautiful missionary hymn, which we have heard almost from our very earliest infancy—

From Greenland's icy mouutains.

Well, do you know, a quiet, simple, plodding old parish clerk is in a way conuected with the composition of this hymn. When I hear that missionary hymn sung at a missionary service or meeting, one cannot help thinking of its composer, the sainted Reginald Heber. He was son-in-law to a clergyman in Wales, the vicar of Wrexham, and it happened one day that the old clerk came into the rectory, and said to the clergyman, "If you please, sir, next Sunday is missionary Sunday; I have come for the missionary hymns." They had had the missionary hymns so often in their somewhat small collection, for Churchmen did not rejoice in such hymn-books in those days as we have now, that they were tired of them, and the clergyman turned round to his son-in-law, Reginald, and said, "You are a bit of a poet, Suppose you write us a hymn," and then and there he wrote that hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains," etc., and it was used on the following Sunday, to the great delight of the parish clerk and congregation.

Formerly the parish clerk was the only one in many a village, or at any rate one of very few indeed who could read or write at all, and many of them, as we have seen from the specimens given this evening, were very poor scholars. Now, however, education is so widely diffused, that it is no longer the monopoly of the few; the rising generation are receiving a good sound elementary education, and the crowds of choristers who fill the stalls of our churches represent a large proportion of our educated youth trained to praise Almighty God. And we must all feel that it is much more seemly to see a choir decently robed in the conduct of Divine Service, than attired in their ordinary dress, and that both men and boys are much more likely to perform their duties with becoming reverence when clad in a surplice—in a robe, that is, calculated to remind them that they are assisting in the worship of God—that they are leading the congregation in their devotions to the Throne of Grace.

Correspondence.

[*While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.*]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

DOUBTFUL AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—In your issue of last week appears the calling of a peal of Stedman Triples subscribed: "conducted by its composer." If I point out that this composition is bob for bob Thurstans' original peal, the author of the transposition will I hope withdraw his claim thereto, a claim which I trust may be but the result of a misprint. By starting to call at the second six of the third course of the fourth part in the first half of the original, the transposition will be obtained; the sole difference consisting in the position of the two singles. The result is simply to transpose the work of the 6th and 7th, and to divide the whole into courses of unequal length. I presume it is understood by modern composers that, in any 5040 of Triples, the calling may be commenced at any place, and called continuously either forwards or backwards, for the relative distance of the bobs or singles will not be altered, and therefore such inversion or reverse, as the case may be, will be equally as true as the original. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Duffield Bank, near Derby, March 3rd, 1888.

[There is no misprint in the direction suggested. We have a duplicate copy of the same production from Mr. Washbrook.—ED.]

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at St. Chad's (R.C.) cathedral, Birmingham, and published in your last week's issue, should read 2 hrs. 47 mins., and not 3 hrs. 47 mins. And also it should read the conductor's first time of calling Holt's Original, not first peal as conductor; and for Henry Chapman, read Harry Chapman.

C. W. CLARKE.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Seeing in your issue of Saturday, February 16th, a report of forty-two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles having been rung at Cranham, Gloucestershire, each called differently, conducted by W. Gregory, I should be obliged if he would kindly inform me how to do it.

13 *Red Lion Street, Spalding.* GEORGE SKEEF.

OUR COMPOSITION PAGE.

SIR,—I quite agree with the remarks made by "Free Lance," that a small charge should be made for the insertion of compositions, but I don't see that it would be a guarantee for a better class of things in that part of the science. The quality of peals depends on the mental capacity of the composer, not altogether on the depth of his pocket. Occasionally we have some very fair peals to look at in "THE BELL NEWS," but at other times it is something awful. I would fall in with any movement that would tend to the general elevation of the composition page, but we must bear in mind that we have some good men, who as you put it in your article, have to exercise care to make both ends meet. There is a great deal to be said on the subject, but I should like the opinion of others, and in my mind I don't see but a satisfactory scheme should be arrived at. CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Snider Works, Sheffield.

MR. MACKMAN'S HALF-PEAL.

SIR,—I would not have troubled you on this subject again but for the thought that many ringers would like to know how this half-peal was really rang. From information I have received from Mr. Mackman, it appears that all went well until the eighteenth lead in the third part, when the second and fifth changed course while dodging out behind. This would have brought the half-peal end to 534267, but the conductor calling an extra bob at the half-peal end, brought 235467, therefore it never was called into rounds by ordinary bobs or singles, and ought not have been published as called round at 2520 changes. Mr. Mackman says in his letter to me that he did not publish it as a 2520 of Court Bob Triples with the intention of impressing on the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" that it was meant for a true half-peal, as he simply meant to give the readers an idea that they had made a good attempt for a peal, and that by adding "a change-course had occurred," any ringer would know that it was not meant for a true half-peal. After this I wonder at Mr. Mackman making such empty excuses for not answering my first letter; I should have thought that he would have known better than publish an attempt for a peal as a half-peal, when it would not have come round if he had not called out "that's all." This, I suppose is an invention of his for making false attempts at peals into half-peals, and then he leaves the Exercise to guess whether it is meant to be true or false. W. B.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5000.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

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4 1 3 2 6 5		–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 2 4 6 5		–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 4 5 3 6	–			–	–	–	–	–
4 1 5 2 3 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 2 4 3 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 4 2 5 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
4 1 2 3 5 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 3 2 4 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 2 5 4 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 5 3 4 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
4 1 3 5 2 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 5 4 2 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 4 3 2 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 3 4 5 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 4 5 2 6	S	–		–	–	–	–	–
4 1 5 3 2 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 3 4 2 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 4 3 5 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
4 1 3 2 5 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 2 3 4 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 3 5 4 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 5 2 4 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
4 1 2 5 3 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–
2 1 5 4 3 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
5 1 4 2 3 6		–		–	–	–	–	–
3 1 2 4 5 6	–	–		–	–	–	–	–

Brought round with calls at 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14.

This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6, and is the first produced on this plan.

Rung at Rotherham, February 14th, 1888; conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By A. E. DURRANT, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 3 5 2 6	1	–		1
3 2 5 4 6	1	–		
4 5 2 3 6	1	–		2
2 5 3 4 6	1	–		1
6 2 4 5 3		–	2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2	–	1	2

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5056.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6	B	M	W	H
4 2 3 5 6				–
6 5 3 2 4		–	–	–
3 6 5 2 4				–
5 3 6 2 4				–
6 2 5 3 4			–	–
5 6 2 3 4				–
2 5 6 3 4				–
6 3 2 5 4			–	–
2 6 3 5 4				–
3 2 6 5 4				–
6 2 4 5 3		–		
3 5 4 2 6		–	–	–
4 5 6 2 3		–		
4 5 2 3 6	–			–
2 4 5 3 6				–
5 2 4 3 6				–
4 3 5 2 6			–	–
5 4 3 2 6				–
3 2 5 4 6			–	–
5 3 2 4 6				–
2 5 3 4 6				–
3 4 2 5 6			–	–
2 3 4 5 6				–

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place, with the 6th twelve times in that position, and the 2nd never being there. It is the first peal published with these particulars.

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR.

5472.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

1 2 3 4 5	I	O
5 3 4 1 2	–	–
2 4 1 5 3	–	–
3 1 5 2 4	–	–
4 3 5 2 1		–
1 5 2 4 3	–	–
3 2 4 1 5	–	–
5 4 1 3 2	–	–
1 4 3 5 2	–	
2 3 5 1 4	–	–
4 5 1 2 3	–	–
3 1 2 4 5	–	–
5 2 4 3 1	–	–
4 2 3 5 1	–	
1 3 5 4 2	–	–
2 5 4 1 3	–	–
3 4 1 2 5	–	–
5 1 2 3 4	–	–
4 5 2 3 1		–
1 4 2 3 5		–

Five times repeated.

Single first call of the third and sixth parts. This peal is the longest composed up to date in six equal parts, with only two singles and the 6th undisturbed.

5376. By omitting the last 3 bobs in any 1 part.
5280. " " " " " " " " 2 parts.
5184. " " " " " " " " 3 "
5088. " " " " " " " " 4 "
5000. By omitting the last three bobs of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th parts, and the last two bobs of the 6th part, and adding a bob at home.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6	1	4	5	6
2 6 4 3 5		–	–	
4 5 2 6 3		S	–	
5 3 2 6 4	–	–	–	
3 4 2 6 5	–	–	–	
5 4 3 6 2		–		
2 4 5 6 3		–		
4 3 5 6 2	–	–	–	
3 2 5 6 4	–	–	–	
4 3 2 6 5		–		
5 2 4 6 3		–		
2 3 4 6 5	–	–	–	
3 5 4 6 2	–	–	–	
2 5 3 6 4		–		
2 4 3 5 6		–	–	
5 3 4 2 6	–			–
3 2 4 5 6	–			
5 4 2 3 6	–			–
4 2 5 3 6				–
2 5 4 3 6				–
3 4 5 2 6	–			–
4 5 3 2 6				–
2 3 5 4 6	–			–
3 5 2 4 6				–
5 2 3 4 6				–
4 3 2 5 6	–			–

Repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottram-in-Longdendale.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 2 6 5 4	2			2
2 4 6 5 3	1			2
3 2 5 4 6	2		1	2
3 5 4 2 6			1	2
2 4 5 3 6			2	2
3 6 4 5 2	1		2	2
2 3 5 6 4		–	2	2
3 4 5 6 2	2	–	1	2
4 2 5 6 3	1			2
2 4 3 6 5		–	1	2
2 3 6 4 5			1	2
2 6 4 3 5			1	2
3 4 6 2 5	1	–		2
6 5 2 4 3	1		1	2
2 3 4 5 6	1		1	2

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1888.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottram-in-Longdendale.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4		–		2
2 4 3 6 5	1			2
2 3 6 4 5	1	–	2	2
3 2 5 4 6	2			2
5 2 4 3 6	1	–		1
2 3 4 5 6	1	–		

ANSWER TO WORD PUZZLE.

Answer to word puzzle in last week's "BELL NEWS": Top square, 48; bottom square, 112.

WILLIAM AVANN.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms :—*

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,,	6 ,, ...	3*s.* 3*d.*
,,	3 ,, ...	1*s.* 8*d.*

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "*THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

J. ROLLISON.—Apply to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1888.

ANOTHER lengthy performance has apparently with some credit been scored by a band of provincial members of the Exercise. At the little town of Appleton in Berkshire on Monday last, a peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 12,041 changes, was successfully accomplished, thus superseding the peal of 11,111 rang at All Saints, Fulham, a year or two ago. The metropolitan members of the Ancient Society of College Youths have hardly been allowed to enjoy the fruits of their victory, so soon, comparatively, has it been put into the shade. The previous "long length" of Stedman Caters was rung at Birmingham, and kept at the head of performances of this description for many years, till the Fulham achievement eclipsed it, and the latter has now to remain in second's place till the peal rung this week has been overcome.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild now claims the palm for Stedman Caters. The length of the peal, having nearly 1000 more changes than the Fulham peal, may be regarded as a full equivalent for the difference in weight of metal; and every one who hears of this very successful performance must be anxious to congratulate the Appleton band upon their success. The figures of the peal have been forwarded for publication, and they will be published next week, but we fervently hope that nothing will be found amiss with the composition, because it must be confessed that the talented conductor has been somewhat remiss in the structure of some of those compositions he has lately sent for publication. The one in question is, however, upon no intricate plan.

The College Youths properly came to the determination to send a representative to Appleton on this occasion; and in the selection of that representative they acted wisely. No one amid their ranks possessed greater ability for the task of accurately watching a peal in its progress than MR. WILLIAM COOTER, no ringer is there existing perhaps who would have performed the duties assigned to him with more tact and suavity. Appleton is, we believe, denied those necessary adjuncts to civilisation—a railway station and a telegraph office—but MR. COOTER, with his usual foresight and courtesy, took care to apprise us as well as the means at his disposal allowed him, how the peal was progressing. Now we know the actual result, and we in our turn congratulate the Guild upon the performance in the same hearty manner that we shall congratulate ten London members of the College Youths, or in fact any other company, when they succeed in pulling off a 13,000 in the same method.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, March 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

JOSEPH DAVIDSON	*Treble.*	HUGH T. SCARLETT.. ..	5.
HENRY A. BARNETT	2.	*JAMES CULLEN	6.
JOHN NUNN	3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN ..	7.
GEORGE B. LUCAS	4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN ..	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN CARTER of Birmingham, and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

*First peal of Major.

TWICKENHAM.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 19 1wt. 3qrs. 24lbs.

CHARLES SLADE	*Treble.*	JAMES HARRIS	5.
EDWARD F. STRANGE ..	2.	JOHN WRIGHT	6.
CHARLES E. MALIM	3.	GEORGE GRAY	7.
JAMES STRUTT	4.	JOHN SMITH	*Tenor.*

Conducted by EDWARD F. STRANGE.

This is the first peal on the bells since the tenor was recast, and that with the seventh re-hung by Messrs J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

The Provinces.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, March 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor — cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN	*Treble.*	WILLIAM SHORT	5.
WALTER CHARMAN	2.	FELIX KNIGHT	6.
THOMAS ANDREWS	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
HARRY COOK	4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Henry Chandler, secretary of the Warnham Branch. It was intended to have started for a peal of Treble Bob Major, but owing to the illness of Mr. Chandler, the above peal was rung instead.

NOTICE.—On Easter Monday a long peal of Grandsire Caters will be attempted at Appleton, Berks, to eclipse the longest peal yet rung in that method.

RADCLIFFE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 2, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12¼ cwt in F♯.

JOSEPH TURNER	*Treble.*	GEORGE E. TURNER ..	5.
ARTHUR BARRETT	2.	JAMES SCHOLEY	6.
JAMES GRATRIX	3.	JOHN HARRISON	7.
JOHN MILLETT	4.	ERNEST BISHOP..	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by ERNEST BISHOP.

The brothers Turner, and Gratrix belong to the Manchester Cathedral Society, Messrs Willett, Scholey, and Harrison from Heywood.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE STEYNING BRANCH).

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following :—

COLLEGE EXERCISE, NEW LONDON PLEASURE, DUKE OF YORK, WOODBINE, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, AND DOUBLE OXFORD.

Tenor 12 cwt.

T. SEARLE	*Treble.*	G. SMART	4.
G. GATLAND	2.	J. WOOLGAR	5.
C. CHAMBERS	3.	C. TYLER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, *in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt in E♭.

HENRY D. ADAMS	*Treble.*	WILLIAM MCCAFFREY ..	5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD.. ..	2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN ..	6.
JOHN HAYWARD	3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD ..	7.
ARTHUR ANDERSON	4.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

Mr. Anderson hails from Bristol, and this is his first peal with a bob-bell. This is the first time Holt's 10-part has been rung in this tower since 1826.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, *in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 23¾ cwt.

THOMAS SHORT	*Treble.*	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	5.
FREDERICK FIELD	2.	HERBERT BAKER	6.
H. D. BETTERIDGE	3.	ALFRED THOMAS	7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Although the men on the 7th and tenor were almost done up owing to the heavy go of the bells, the peal was exceedingly well struck.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

T. DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

W. H. GODDEN*..	*Treble.*	*SAM ATKINS	5.
EDGAR PEMBERTON*	2.	SAMUEL REEVES	6.
JOSEPH TIMMS	3.	CHARLES PRICE..	7.
HENRY SLANEY	4.	WILLIAM SMITH	*Tenor.*

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal in this Society. Mr. Pemberton, who was elected a member in the tower, hails from Bury St. Edmunds; Timms and Slaney from Tamworth; Smith from Darlaston; Atkins from Willenhall; Godden from Handsworth, and the rest rom West Bromwich.

SHARNBROOK, BEDFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, *in Three Hours and One Minute,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following :—

Yorkshire Court, Canterbury Pleasure, College Single, London Single, Oxford Bob, College Little, Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK CLAYTON* ..	*Treble.*	*ALFRED H. MARTIN.. ..	4.
ALFRED E. CHAPMAN ..	2.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT ..	5.
CHARLES WEST	3.	WILLIAM A. HALL	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. A. HALL.

*First 5040 upon six bells. Messrs. W. J. Gilbert and W. Hall hail from Raunds; F. Clayton and A. Chapman from Rushden; A. Martin from Higham Ferrers; and C. West from Biddenham, Beds. The company wish to thank the Rev. —. Wilkinson for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal, aud also to the ringers for getting everything in readiness.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, March 1, 1888, *in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES S. WILDE	*Treble.*	JOSEPH MALONEY	5.
JOHN HARROP	2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY	6.
THOMAS BRADLEY	3.	THOMAS WILDE	7.
HENRY COOPER	4.	JOHN PYE, SEN... ..	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal, which is in three equal parts, has the sixth its extent home, and was rung in honour of Mr. John Pye, sen., 63rd birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. The brothers Bradley and Wilde hail from Hyde, the rest from Glossop.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—CROYDON, SURREY.

On Monday, March 5, 1888, *in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 32 cwt. in E♭.

HENRY C. HALEY	*Treble.*	WILLIAM STATES	5.
HENRY DUDLEY	2.	ALFRED BRUCE..	6.
WILLIAM J. CHAMBERS ..	3.	THOMAS VERRALL	7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER ..	4.	WILLIAM HILL / SAMUEL MAYHEW	*Tenor.*

Conducted by H. C. HALEY.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 5, 1888, *in Seven Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 12,041 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE	*Treble,*	GEORGE HOLIFIELD.. ..	6.
GEORGE H. PHILLOTT ..	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	7.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD	3.	JESSE AVERY	8.
WILLIAM BENNETT	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	9.
HERBERT BAKER..	5.	STEDMAN WHITE	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is the longest peal yet rang in the method, and was rung at the first attempt.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE	*Treble.*	CHARLES HOUNSLOW ..	5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD	2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	6.
HERBERT BAKER..	3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD.. ..	7.
WILLIAM BENNETT	4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	*Tenor.*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ROBERT HART* .. .. ..*Treble.*		*PETER NUTTALL .. .. 5.	
JAMES HIGSON .. .. .. 2.		JAMES MAY .. .. .. 6.	
JOSEPH PRESCOTT .. .. 3.		JOHN WHITEHEAD .. .. 7.	
WILLIAM GORTON* .. .. 4.		JAMES THORP .. .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

* First peal.

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, March, 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. C. TRUSS, ST. PETER'S STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

H. BUCKINGHAM* .. .. 1-2.		*J. C. TRUSS, JUN... .. 5-6.	
J. W. WASHBROOK.. .. 3-4.		J. C. TRUSS, SEN... .. 7-8.	

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. Referee, W. Truss, who marked off the bob leads as they came up J. C. Truss, jun., is within one month of 14 years of age.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, in Three Hours and a ½ Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17¾ cwt. in F.

HENRY G. GARDENER ..*Treble.*		DANIEL JOHN ASTON .. 5.	
WILLIAM JAMES SEVIER .. 2.		SYDNEY EDWARD ROMANS 6.	
HENRY MITCHELL .. .. 3.		ALFRED ARTHUR WAITE.. 7.	
RAYMOND JOHN WILKINS.. 4.		THOMAS WHITE .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by HENRY GEORGE GARDENER.

The above are all members of the local band.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, March 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Miuutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR SYMONDS* .. ..*Treble.*		WALTER GRIGGS .. .. 5.	
CHARLES SILLITOE .. .. 2.		WILLIAM HOWELL .. .. 6.	
JAMES CAMPIN† .. .. .. 3.		HARRY HARPER.. .. .. 7.	
ARTHUR SCOTT .. .. .. 4.		*WILLIAM MOORE .. ..*Tenor.*	

Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

This is the first peal in this method on these noted bells and was rung at the first attempt. The band was complimented by the inhabitants on the excellent striking which was maintained throughout the peal. They also beg to thank the Rev. Croker, through the medium of this paper, for his kind permission to ring. *First peal. †First peal in the method. Messrs Symonds and Moore are of the Lavenham company, the rest belong to Sudbury, Suffolk. The above was rung to celebrate the 42nd birthday of W. Howell.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, evening, March 6th, at St. John's church, six members of the local company, rang a date touch (1888 changes), in the following methods, 448 Oxford Bob, 720 Grandsire Minor and 720 Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first date touch ever rung in Darlington, and the first on record this year by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON.—On Saturday, March 3rd, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 10. mins. Edgar Bennett, 1; John Plowman, 2; A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 3; Joseph Fayers, 4; J. W. Trappitt, 5; Chas. Bance, 6; Chas. Gordon, 7; Wm. Burkin, 8. The calling of this touch was given in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 18th.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday evening, March 2nd, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a date touch (1888 changes), in eight different methods, being 208 Oxford Treble Bob, and 240 each of the following methods: London Surprise, Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Violet and Kent, in 57 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; E. Jordan (composer and conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

YORK.—On Sunday morning, March 4th, being the Assize Sunday, for Divine service, at York Minster, the date of the year, 1888 changes of Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 16 mins. J. W. Cundall, 1; R. Long, 2; G. Worth, 3; E. Dawson, 4; A. E. Fearnley, 5; G. Breed, 6; T. Haigh, 7; T. Hodgson, 8; J. Thompson, 9; W. H. Howard (composer and conductor), assisted by E. Morrod, 10. Tenor 54 cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 19th, for morning service, at St. Stephen's church, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples. C. Burden, 1; J. Hinton, 2; S. Phillips, 3; C. Trevett, 4; E. Beake, 5; W. Emery, 6; G. Daltry (conductor), 7; W. Colston, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 1st, 1888, at the parish church, by the local society, a date touch, 1888 changes of Cumberland Exercise Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brook, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; L. Illingworth (conductor), 7. W. Collins, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by W. Goodall of Liversedge.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, March 5th, at St. Mary's parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11½ mins., in the following methods, viz., 448 Plain Bob (composed by C. E. Wilson), 360 Woodbine, 240 College Single, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, 120 Grandsire and 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Tenor the observation throughout. All the above with the exception of C. E. Wilson hail from Bootle. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, February 9th, at St. Anne's church, 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; R. Weeks, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 27 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. This 720 was taken from Snowdon's *Rope-Sight*. On Thursday evening, February 23rd, 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Harding (first 360), 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; H. Stapleton (first 360 with a bob bell), 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 1st, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently). A. Harding, 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; W. Vandell, 6.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Monday, February 6th, at St. Nicholas' church, three courses of Grandsire Major. C. Trevett, 1; G. Stadon, 2; A. Anderson, 3; F. Perrin, 4; E. Beake, 5; W. Parsons, 6; F. Price, 7; G. Daltry, 8. Tenor 36 cwt. in C. On Saturday, February 18th, the members met at St. Peter's church to pay respect to the memory of Mr. W. Huish, on the 1st anniversary of his death. Mr. Huish was steeple-keeper at this church for over fifty years. With the bells half-muffled, 504 Grandsire Triples was rung. F. Price, 1; A. Anderson, 2; J. Bawn, 3; H. Bawn, 4; E. Duckham, 5; M. Sheppard, 6; G. Daltry (conductor), 7; D. Palser, 8. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Major was attempted, but came to grief when 512 changes had been rung. A. Guy, 1; A. Anderson, 2; J. Bawn, 3; H. Bawn, 4; E. Duckham, 5; W. Parsons, 6; F. Price, 7; G. Daltry (conductor), 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples, with A. Guy, 3; E. Guy, 8. Conducted by F. Price.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINSTER (Sussex).—On Monday, March 5th, for practice, the Lyminster branch, with two from Arundel, rang three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. The following are the ringers: W. Matthews, J. Penn, E. Penn, W. Hammond, W. Mills, C. Fuller, W. L. Chamberlain, and G. Baker (conductor). Messrs. W. L. Chamberlain and G. Baker hail from Arundel; the rest belongs to Lyminster. This is the first change-ringing worth recording by any local band at Lyminster.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday, February 25th, 1888, at the parish church, a 576 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. G. Charman, 1; W. Charman, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Short, 4; H. Cook, 5; F. Knight 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. Chandler (conductor), 8. Also on Tuesday, February 28th, 576 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. Charman, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wadey, 3; T. Andrews 4; H. Cook, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. Chandler (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, March 4th, a 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Charman, 1; W. Charman, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Short, 4; A. Mills, 5; H. Cook, 6; D. Jordon, 7; H. Chandler (conductor), 8. Also a 576 in the same method. G. Charman, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; H. Cook, 6; D. Jordan, 7; H. Chandler (conductor), 8. Also a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. J. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; G. Rapley, 4; G. Chandler, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh and E. Cook covering with 6, 8. The brothers Jordan and Mills hail from Capel. The rest are the local band.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Double Court Bob and 144 of Kent Treble Bob, in 30 mins. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. Rudkin. 4; H. Bowell, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also a 360 of New London Pleasure, with T. Watson, 1; the rest as before. At the residence of Mr. S. Hammond, on handbells retained in hand, a course of Grandsire Caters. H. E. Hammond, 1-2; S. Hammond, 3-4; H. Bowell, 5-6; F. Rudkin, 7-8; A. Huckson, 9-10. Also touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. H. Bowell, who is at present engaged in ringing a fine old maiden peal of five by Miles Gray at Great Leighs, hails from Ipswich.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Sunday, February 5th, for afternoon service, at the parish church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. W. Haslam, 4; H. Deal (conductor), 5; F. Strugnell, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Double Court, in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 3; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. W. Haslam, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 12th, a 720 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; F. W. Haslam, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 26th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; F. W. Haslam, 3; H. Deal (conductor), 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell, 6. Also on Monday, February 27th, a 240 of Double Oxford, 240 of Plain Bob Minor and 240 of College Single, in 27 mins. G. Smith, 1; F. W. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; H. Deal (conductor), 5; F. H. Brewer, 6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. *E. Radley, 1; C. H. Howard, 2; F. L. Bumstead, 3; S. Hammond (conductor and composer), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. Bowell, 6. Also 144 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; *E. Radley, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; H. Bowell, 5; W. Radley, 6. *First 720 in the method, also first touch of Treble Bob with a bob bell. Messrs. Howard, Hammond, Bumstead, Rudkin and Watson hail from Braintree; Bowell from Ipswich; Messrs. Radley are local men.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, March 2nd, for practice, 720 College Exercise. A. Tarbun, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; W. J. Piper, 6. And to give E. Hawkes of Galleywood a pull, three different six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Dains, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Lincoln (conductor), 4; A. Edwards, 5; C. Hawkes, 6. And three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. A. Tarbun, 1; W. Lincoln (conductor), 2; J. Dains, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; A. Edwards, 5; C. Hawkes, 6. The above is the first 720 in the method by all except the conductor, and the first time that method was practised by the above band.

WRITTLE.—On Sunday, March 4th, for morning Service, 720 Plain Bob, with tenor covering. *W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; F. Radley, 3; A. Edwards, 4; R. Wood, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. *First 720. And for evening service, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Brazier, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; R. Wood, 3; W. Harvey, 4; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; W. J. Piper, 7; C. Hawkes, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service at the parish church in the evening, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jackson, 1; A. Cornford, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; W. Harper, 4; G. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, seven members of the above society, assisted by Charles King of Stroud, attempted Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 5 mins. When the 4th call in the 7th part was reached, the 5th man set his bell, complaining of being unwell, much to the surprise of the ringers, as the ringing was progressing beautifully. A. Trigg, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; C. King, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Longest length for Ryland, Everatt, Smith and Wright. And on Monday evening, March 5th, a quarter-peal in the same method (1260 changes), in 51 mins., taken from Shipway's reprint. A. Trigg, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; D. Marment, 4; W. Hale (conductor), 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also a 350 with T. Ireland at the 3rd and Gwinnett at 5th, the rest as before.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday, March 3rd, 1888, at St. John's church, Deritend, an attempt was made for a farewell peal of Bob Major for Mr. J. Wright, honorary secretary of the above, who is leaving this country for America, but after ringing about 2,500 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins., it suddenly came to grief. G. Hitchman, 1; J. Wright, 2; C. Barnacle, 3; J. Jones, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; C. Carmell, 6; A. Hackley, 7; F. H. James, 8. Afterwards an adjournment was made to the Church tavern, when Mr. J. Wright was presented with a handsome present by the members, for the excellent service he has rendered the association from the commencement (1882). Mr. J. Wright thanked the members for their great kindness, and wishing the distance was not so far, and that he might still be with them, as he did not intend resigning, but only wished he could do something more for the association.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Tuesday, February 28th, at St. James church, a touch of Grandsire Minor, and a 720 of Bob Minor, to celebrate the marriage of Mr. F. Sharpe, a member of the St. James's society, with Miss J. M. Wood. G. T. Miller, 1; F. Merrison, 2; W. Southwick. 3; T. Stockdale, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; J. W. Stickney (conductor). 6. Time 27 mins. Tenor 15 cwt.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 4th, at the parish church, 600 Grandsire Doubles. J. Robinson, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. Also 1260 Grandsire Doubles, in 37 mins. J. Robinson, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. And 360 Grandsire Doubles. W. Bowyer, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. Tenor 10 cwt.

GLOUCESTER.—On Tuesday evening, February 28th, at St. Mary-le-Crypt, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. G. Brunsdon, 1; F. Hart, 2; S. Romans, 3; R. Brunsdon, 4; G. Wanklyn, 5; J. Clark, 6; B. Etheredge (conductor), 7; H. Eaketts, 8. Composed by J. Carter. Tenor 14 cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters. Richard Williams, 1; R. Hill, 2; W. Woodhead, 3; C. Williams, 4; H. Coley, 5; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 6; Thos. Byron, 7; W. Davies, 8; Robert Williams (composer), 9; W. Brooks, 10. Also two courses of Kent Treble Bob, and three courses of Plain Bob. R. Hill hails from Southport; T. Byron from Southport.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 25th, at Holy Trinity church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs., the fifth rope broke. P. C. S. Scott, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; O. Garwood, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6; J. Bird, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Messrs. Symonds and Smith hail from Lavenhrm, Slater and Garwood from Glemsford, and C. Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest belong to Melford.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 19th, after evening service, at St. John the Baptist church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. T. Wood, 1; W. Manning, 2; J. Priest, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; G. Cornell, 5; H. Scarlett, 6.

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, February 26th, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rung 720 Bob Minor. S. Jones (one hand), 1; D. West, 2; G. Jones, 3; A. Matthews, 4; W. Thomas, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. On Monday evening, February 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Matthews (first 720 in the method),

1; G. Jones, 2; D. West (first 720 in the method), 3; J. Mercer, 4; W. Morgan, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. On Saturday, March 3rd, 720 in the same method. A. Matthews, 1; J. Mercer, 2; W. Morgan, 3; G. Jones, 4; J. Morgan, 5; C. Price (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford. G. Jones, 1; C. Price, 2; J. Mercer, 3; J. Morgan (conductor), 4; W. Morgan, 5; W. Thomas, 6. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. S. Jones, 1; D. West, 2; G. Jones, 3; A. Matthews, 4; G. Jones, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Wednesday, February 29th, 720 Bob Minor. S. Williams, 1; G. W. Davies (first 720), 2; D. West, 3; A. Matthews, 4; J. Morgan (conductor), 5-6. C. Price hails from Eccleston.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, at St. Giles's church, the All Saints' society of Sedgely, with the assistance of John Goodman of Dudley, late of Sedgely, and Mr. W. Johnson, of St. Giles's, Willenhall, late of Darlaston, arranged for a peal of Grandsire Major, owing to one short a start was made for a 5040 of Grandsire Triples. After ringing 3060 changes, owing to a mishap, unfortunately came to grief, after ringing 1 hr. 58 mins. W. Johnson, 1; W. Mills, 2; D. Bruce, 3; S. Bunn, 4; J. Goodman, 5; R. Schofield (conductor), 6; J. Devenport, 7; James Flavell, 8. We kindly ask through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the vicar for the use of the bells; also the Rowley ringers in the way the received us. Any of our brother ringers will find it a treat to have a pull, the bells are in a first-class condition, and it gives great credit to Mr. Barwell of Birmingham, under whose direction the workmanship was carried out in such a grand style.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, March 3rd, at the house of Mr. J. Dickins, on his new set of handbells, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. C. R. Howard, 1-2; W. G. Biggs, 3-4; C. W. Clarke, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. G. Biggs, 1; C. R. Howard, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Pain (first 720 and first attempt), 5; A. J. Barcock (first 720 in the method on a bob bell), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Pain, 1; W. G. Biggs, 2-3; C. W. Clarke, 4-5; A. J. Barcock (first 720 as conductor), 6. Messrs. Biggs, Clarke, and Hills hail from Bedford; Howard from Biddenham; the remainder belong to the local company, who are making rapid strides in the art.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 28th, at St. Peter's church, with the bells deeply muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of Alderman T. Smith, J.P., touches of Bob Major were rung before and after the funeral; and in the evening with the bells half-muffled, 1392 BOB MAJOR, in 1 hr. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, February 25th, at the parish church, 1050 Grandsire Triples. J. Hayward, 1; E. A. Foster (Corsham), 2; A. Prescott, 3; A. Anderson, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifiord, 7; G. Houlton, 8.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, March 5th, for practice at All Saints' church, 828 Grandsire Caters. W. Pudge, 1; N. Wale, 2; W. Powell, 3; H. Phesant, 4; F. Owen, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilkes (conductor), 7; S. Cleal, 8; S. Cotton, 9; T. Malin, 10. S. Cleal hails from Tewkesbury.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

In the Upper House of Convocation, Canterbury Province, what we may reasonably call a debate, has occurred upon this question, and some very remarkable allegations have been let loose regarding the doings of many of the higher classes upon that day, which we have been taught from our youth to "remember" to keep holy. There have been several hints of late in the daily papers upon such allegations—how that distinguished personages gave their countenance to acts in absolute contravention of the fourth commandment, which the Bishops have in a practical manner brought into daylight. The Bishop of Exeter without fear brought before the notice of his right reverend brethren an extract from a newspaper which we hope has ceased to exist, because it evidently exults in that desecration of the Sabbath which it boldly asserts is so current. Clubs for Sunday drives to what are regarded as fashionable places, river parties, evening theatricals, comic song tournaments where one may hear the pick of music-hall talent; boxing displays; and dancing bouts on Sunday, are, we believe, abhorrent to the great mass of Englishmen, and our readers will, we are sure, echo such belief. Putting on one side the religious aspect of the matter, though that is the most important one, it appears to us that this ultra desecration of the Sabbath, if not stayed, must prove to be the thin edge of the wedge, unconsciously perhaps, towards abolishing the day of rest altogether. This is a question which concerns working classes much more than is apparent.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF RINGING FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MARCH 5TH, 1888.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, February 16th, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, sen, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 23rd, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter sen., 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, March 1st a 720 of Double Court Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter sen., 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. B. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Yorkshire Court. E. Streeter sen., 1; R. Streeter, 2; H. Meads, 3; A. Stoner, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton Branch at Brighton.—On Sunday morning, February 19th, at S. Peter's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; J. Jay, 4; W. E. Marshall, 5; G. Thwaites (conductor), 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also for afternoon service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples (non-conducted), in 18 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Reilly, 3; G. A. Thwaites, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Jay, 7; E. Butler, 8. Also on Tuesday, February 21st, at S. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. Neves, 1; W. Palmer, 2; G. A. King, 3; Heneage Cornwall, 4; H. Weston, 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6; E. Butler and Horace Cornwall 7 and 8 covers. Also at St. Peter's church, on Sunday afternoon, March 4th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; J. Jay, 3; J. Searle, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8. And for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. J. Jay, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; *H. Cornwall, J; J. Mockett, 8. *First quarter-peal.

By the Hurst and Balcombe Branches at Hurst.—On Monday, February 27th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 29 mins. A. Pierce, 1; T. Mansbridge, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; W. Lander (conductor), 5; H. Sayers, 6; A. Davey and D. Davey, 7 and 8 covers. Also another six 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, in 30 mins. A. Pierce, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; W. Lander (conductor), 5; T. Mansbridge, 6; W. B. Davey and D. Davey, 7 and 8 covers. Messrs. Stoner, Meads and Cheeseman hail from Balcombe.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Tuesday, February 28th. a 720 of Duke of York. J. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; G. Smart, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, March 4th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2 G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor); 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; J. Woolgar, 2; C, Chambers, 3; T. Searle, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Exercise. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Chambers, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.. Also on Sunday, March 3rd, a 5040 in seven different MINOR methods, in 3 hrs. and 5 mins. (for particular see peal column).

By the Worth branch, at Worth.—On Wednesday, February 8th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23 mins. J. Tullett, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Streeter, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob, in 23 mins. J. Tullett, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, February 15th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. E. Streeter, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Tullett, 1; F. Rice, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

By the Warnham Branch at Warnham.—On Thursday, March 1st, a 5040 of Oxford Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. For particulars see peal column.

G. F. ATTREE.

CLERICAL ADDRESS TO MR. GLADSTONE IN FAVOUR OF HOME RULE.—A letter has been sent to Mr. Gladstone from 283 clergymen of the Church of England respecting Home Rule. They express a deep conviction that Home Rule is the only Irish policy before the country consistent with the principles of equal justice and charity. At some length they protest earnestly against the alternative policy of coercion; and they assure Mr. Gladstone of their confident belief that the restoration of an Irish Parliament and an Irish Ministry to the Irish people is not only not a policy of separation, but is the best security for real union. Among the signatories to this memorial are: G. W. Kitchin, Dean of Winchester; John Oakley, Dean of Manchester; John R. Magrath, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford; S. J. Phear, Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; C. J. Abraham (Bishop), Canon of Lichfield; C. H. Bromby (Bishop); E. H. Bradby, Canon of St. Albans; G. Butler, Canon of Winchester, &c. &c.

Church News.

The Bishop of Truro, who is suffering from overwork, has been ordered abroad for at least a month's rest.

The preacher at the 1.15 p.m. service at St. Paul's this week is *Dean Hole, and next week will be Canon Body.*

The Bishop of Liverpool has announced his intention of contributing £1,000 to the proposed cathedral fund.

The Bishop of Bedford, Bishop-designate of Wakefield, was the preacher of the Lent lecture at St. Alphage, London-wall, on Friday evening, and selected for his text, St. Matt. viii. 34.

The Earl of Lonsdale has placed in the gift of five Commissioners the incumbency of Ravestonedale, Westmoreland. The living is vacant owing to the retirement of the Rev. George Atkinson, who has reached the age of ninety-two years.

The Bishop-designate of Wakefield has appointed the following examining chaplains for his future diocese:—Canon Ingram Brooke, rector of Thornhill, Dewsbury; Canon Whitaker, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; the Rev. Wilfrid O. Burrows, student of Christ College, Oxford; and the Rev. W. Foxley Norris, jun., vicar of Shirburn, Tetsworth.

The Rev. G. R. Gleig, who has reached his ninety-second year, is reported to be seriously ill. He began life as an officer in the army, but was ordained in 1819. He was perpetual curate of Ash-next-Sandwich 1821-34, rector of Ivychurch 1822-79, Chaplain-General 1844-75, and Inspector of Military Schools, 1846-51. He is the author of a long list of military, theological, and other works.

The council of the English Church Union report that up to the 24th ult. they had received £10.254 18s. 6d. in aid of their Special Defence Fund, and £4483 9s. 10d. in aid of the Deprived Clergy and Sustentation Fund. From the first named amount the sum of £993 has been paid up to date for the proceedings in the Queen's Bench in the Bell-Cox case, and £84 in aid of the Rev. R. F. Herring, vicar of St, John Baptist's, Toxteth-park, Liverpool.

Mr. John Walter Lea, of Plaistow, Kent, died suddenly on Wednesday, February 29th, at the age of sixty. Mr. Lea was kneeling in his place, at St. Mary's, Plaistow, jnst before the commencement of the Litany, when he suddenly fell down and expired, through failure of action of the heart. Mr. Lea was an M.A. of Oxford, a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and of other learned bodies. He was well known as the ablest and best read canonist of the day, and was a man of true saintly life.

On Friday, March 2nd, the Rev. Bartholomew Edwards, rector of Ashill, Norfolk, entered upon his hundredth year. It is probable that he is the oldest living graduate of the Uuiversity of Cambridge, where he took his B.A. as far back as 1811, the year before Archdeacon Philpott, and four years before Lord Eversley. Mr. Edwards does not appear to have held any other preferment than his rectory, to which he presented himself in 1813, the year he was ordained priest by Bishop Bathurst of Norwich, seventy-five years ago. His health is still good, and he has conducted Divine Service in his parish church more than once this year.

Sinister rumours are abroad as to secession from the Church Missionary Society. Is is said that efforts are being made to start a rival Society more distinctly Protestant in its tone than the Church Missionary Society is alleged to have shown itself during recent years. A young peer, whose name has already been prominent in this context; a venerable and wealthy layman, who has for the last half-century been a bounteous giver to all sorts of good works; and a clergyman, already the secretary of an agency formed by secession from one of the great Evangelical societies, are freely spoken of in connection with the new organization. We refrain from mentioning names because we cannot believe that any of these gentlemen would consent to be connected with a secret movement of this kind against the Church Missionary Society.—*Guardian.*

At a luncheon held at the Hydropathic Establishment at Blackpool, on Monday week, the Bishop of Manchester, who had just consecrated a portion of the cemetery, said he supposed all were agreed that they should treat the relics of the dead with reverence and affection, and that when they had once been deposited in the earth, they should not be disturbed or any profanation allowed to come near them. In the present day, however, there seemed to be a considerable difference of opinion as to the best manner of facilitating the transformation of what was organic matter into inorganic matter. We had no business to injure the living in our reverence for the dead, and he did not see that there was any need that we should. If we avoided its most obvious faults, he could not help thinking that interment on the whole was the most natural way of disposing of the remains of the dead.

UNIQUE SURPRISE METHODS.

On the Queen's Birthday, May 24th, of last year, a 5040 of Minor in seven Surprise methods was rung at Stockton-on-Tees by the Stockton branch of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and was duly recorded in "The Bell News," with a footnote added, calling attention to a similar 5040 rung at Bingley, in Yorkshire, in 1793, and asking when and where a similar 5040 had been rung. As this enquiry elicited no response, the Stockton 5040 may be claimed as the first peal of the kind this century. This Society has been successful in being able to repeat the performance in these high-class methods as a Jubilee peal. The fact that such peals are so seldom rung is probably owing to the fact that only two or three of these methods are published in modern works on ringing. In the *Clavis* and the old works a large number of such methods will be found, but many of them are not worth consideration, owing to the 5th and tenor coming up wrong behind, a defect which no properly trained ear can tolerate upon any number of bells. The seven methods of which the Stockton 5040 is composed, are Cambridge, London, Wells, York, Durham, Worcester, Chichester, all of which are perfectly grammatical in their order of changes, interesting as well as intricate in their composition, and exceedingly musical, especially the four last named, York Surprise being perhaps the premier method in all respects on six bells. A lead of each method is given below with the scale of leads, the calling being on the tenor or 5th, the same as ordinary Treble Bob Methods.

Cambridge. 123456	*London.* 123456	*Wells.* 123456	*York.* 123456	*Durham.* 123456	*Worcester.* 123456	*Chichester.* 123456
214365	213546	213546	214365	214365	214365	214365
124635	125364	125364	124635	124635	124356	124356
216453	215634	215634	216453	216453	213465	213465
261435	251643	251643	261435	261435	231645	231645
624153	526134	526134	624153	624513	326154	326154
621435	521643	521643	621435	621435	321645	321645
264153	256134	256134	264153	264153	236154	236154
624513	526314	526314	624513	624513	326514	326514
265431	562341	562341	642531	642531	362541	362541
256413	653214	653214	465213	465213	635214	635214
524631	635241	563241	456231	645231	653241	365241
256431	365421	536421	546321	654321	563421	356421
524613	356412	356412	564312	564312	536412	536412
542631	534621	534621	653421	653421	354621	354621
456213	543612	543612	635412	635412	345612	345612
546123	453162	453162	365142	365142	435162	435162
451632	541326	541326	631524	631524	341526	341526
456123	543162	543162	635142	635142	345162	345162
541632	451326	451326	361524	361524	431526	431526
514623	415362	415362	316542	316542	413256	413256
156432	145632	145632	135624	135624	142365	142365
516342	416523	416523	315264	315264	412356	412356
153624	146253	146253	132546	132546	143265	143265
156342	142635	142635	135264	135264	134625	134625
&c.						
720.	720.		720.		720.	
—	—		—		—	
56342	42635		- 23564		34625	
42635	64523		36245		- 46325	
-23564	56342		64352		- 63425	
64352	- 23564		45623		34562	
-45236	- 45236		- 45236		45236	
36524	24653		- 45362		52643	
24653	62345		56423		- 26543	
-45362	36524		62534		65324	
62534	- 45362		23645		53462	
34256	34256		34256		34256	

Each twice repeated.

SALISBURY.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, February 27th, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). W. Wise, 1-2; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 3-4; A. W. Barkus, 5-6. And another 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles), conducted by A. Barkus. Also on Wednesday, February 29th, 1078 Grandsire Triples. A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. E. Tydeman, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. Wise, 7-8. And 720 Bob Minor. A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 3-4; W. Wise, 5-6.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Better late than never."

Our Romford friends are evidently by this time convinced of the truth of the old maxim quoted above. And with good reason. Thanks to their good vicar, Canon Hitchcock, their patience and perseverance has been rewarded by the possession of a ring, musical in tone and perfect in its "fittings." The Essex Association, likewise, is to be congratulated on this event. The fact that they have brought their influence to bear in a manner which has resulted in this restoration at Romford is very creditable to them, and shews what may be done by our County Associations if they will but set themselves to work.

* * * * *

Another event of a similar character is also reported from the ancient city of Norwich. It would be difficult to imagine that in this historic centre of change-ringing, any difficulty should be experienced in having everything connected with the art in first-rate order. Nevertheless, it is satisfactory to know that the Exercise is not only living and thriving, but also making progress in this noted city of change-ringers.

* * * * *

I notice with pleasure the reports of two presentations made—one to an energetic instructor, and the other to a faithful steeple-keeper. No one but those who have occupied such positions, can know the amount of work which they entail, and particularly in the case of instructors—the many hours of hard work both in the belfry and at heme, the many anxieties disappointments, and other features of a similar nature which those gentlemen who fill these important offices experience. It is therefore very pleasing to see now and then such hearty, unselfish, and energetic labours rewarded by those who have benefitted thereby. And moreover, these presentations will be of good service in another way, by an incentive to others engaged in the same work, to proceed more heartily, knowing that they will have their reward at least in the good wishes of those to whom they do this service.

* * * * *

I say, Mr. "Thick-headed Stoney Ringer," just draw it mild a bit, or you will be liable to bother folk with your hieroglyphics. We had enough with the Fifteen Puzzle, and numberless other productions of that ilk to serve a generation, without you giving us the nightmare, and causing our repose to be disturbed with the imagination that the whole firmament is covered with capital letters evolving themselves in all directions into the name of this valuable paper. If the Editor decided to put a charge of sixpence upon original compositions, he ought in common fairness to mulct you to the tune of as many pounds as a penalty for the disturbed state of mind you are likely to create among those of our friends who are curious enough to attempt a solution of your "puzzle."

* * * * *

Mr. Marsden enquires if any one knows the method "Cheapside Bob," in which they rung a 720 at Eckington, on February 15th. Grandsire I know, Stedman I know, Treble Bob I know, Duffield I know, but this Cheapside Bob, who is he? At the same time through the fact that a 720 of it has actually been rung, we may fairly consider it a ringable method, that there is nothing watery in its construction—nothing "reservoir"-ish in fact.

* * * * *

But, joking apart, this subject brings up another point. No one can dispute the fact that there has been a very much increased activity among our six-bell ringers of late years; neither can it be doubted that with this improved state of things many fresh Minor methods have been introduced and rung, which have probably never appeared in print. There can be no question, also, that methods are rung in different places under various names. All this shews the need of a properly revised collection of Minor methods, arranged in their various classes, and placed before the Exercise either by instalments in "The Bell News" or in some form which will be within the reach of all, however limited their means might be.

* * * * *

In order to effect this desirable object, I venture to propose that if all our brethren having six-bell methods in their possession which they have reason to believe are original, or at any rate not generally known, will send to the Editor, marked for me, with the bob and single making, and the calling of a 720s I will undertake to collate and revise them. Then when I have got the list something like complete, I will forward the name, for insertion in these pages, so that our friends will have the opportunity of examining and correcting the same, furnishing omissions, et cetera. That having been done, I would then devise what seemed to me the best mode of placing the collection before the Exercise.

* * * * *

This collection of Minor methods would, I feel sure, be o benefit, not only to those whose ring is confined to six, but to others, and also in many ways; the advantages of it, indeed, appear to me so palpable that I do not think it necessary to recapitulate them. I therefore leave the matter to our friends to take up if they think fit, simply promising that, if proceeded with, no effort shall be wanting on my part to make the project beneficial as possible.

* * * * *

I would also add here one remark of a personal character. My object in writing these notes is not merely to "pick holes" and find fault. As I observed in a previous number, a "carping critic" is an abomination, and I trust the readers of "The Bell News" will never have cause to regard me as such a disreputable character. Whether I pen words of criticism or praise, believe me that in both cases my object is the same,—that I have no personal feelings in the matter; my whole and sole aim being the good and welfare of the Exercise. I would likewise remark *en passant* that should any of our friends desire to communicate with me at any time, if they will send their communications to the Editor under cover, I have no doubt that he will kindly forward them to me.

* * * * *

Before appending my signature this week, I pause to insert a word of congratulation to the three "young ones" of Woodford, who rung their first date touch last Monday week. There are not many of us older ones who can boast of having taken part in a date touch when but 15 years old. Well done, lads! But don't stop here; nor let it be long before we see your names again, and never in after years forget those who first taught you to ring.

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The Second Handbell Competition will take place at the Annual Meeting of the Association on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The names of all the members of a band, together with the necessary entrance fees, must be forwarded to me not later than Monday, March 19th, mentioning at the same time the prizes for which it is desired to compete. Local Honorary Secretaries will please bear in mind that "no member whose subscription to the Association is in arrear will be allowed to compete."

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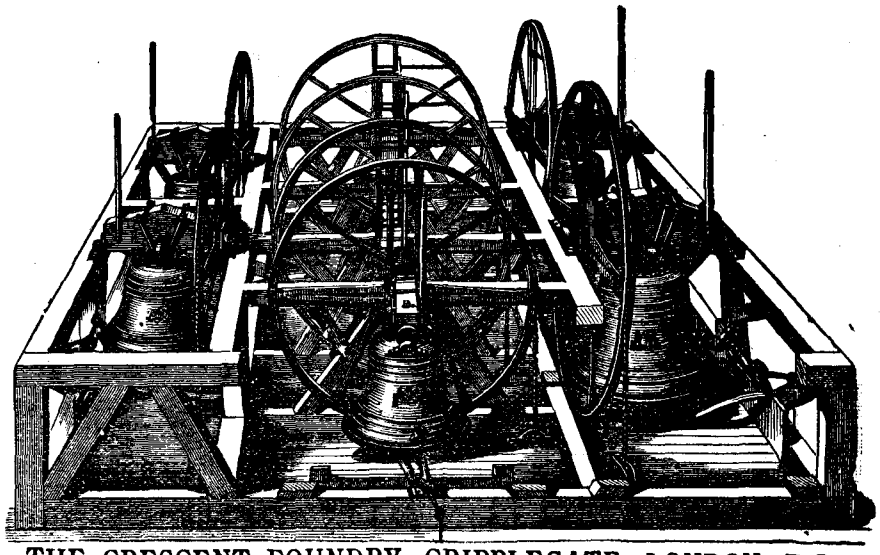

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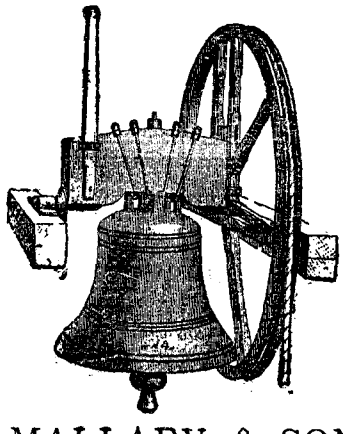

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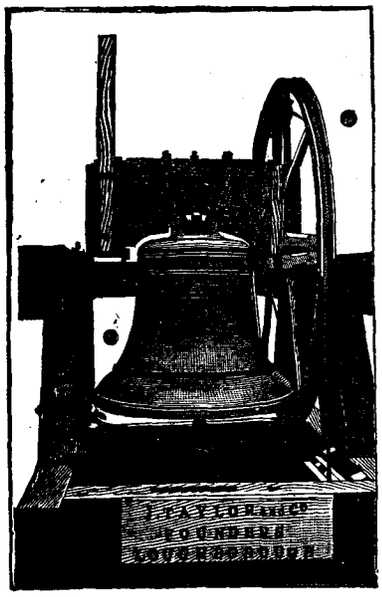

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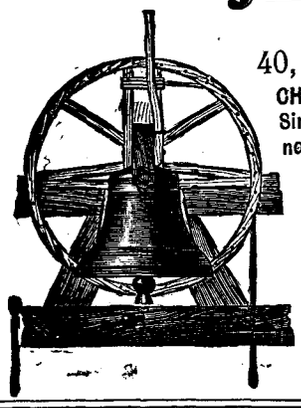

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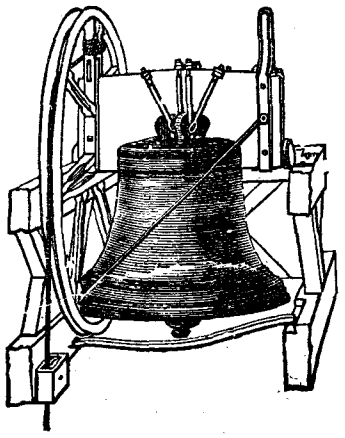

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To Geo. H. JONES, ESQ., D.D.S. S. G. HUTCHINS,
By appointment Surgeon-Dentist to Her Majesty the Queen.

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To Geo. H. JONES, ESQ., Surgeon-Dentist,
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ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan.	*Feb.*	*Total.*
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	6	10	16
Sussex County Association	8	5	13
Lancashire Association	3	6	9
Norwich Diocesan Association	5	3	8
Yorkshire Association	1	6	7
Midland Counties Association	4	3	7
St. James's Society, London	3	4	7
Oxford Diocesan Guild	3	2	5
Essex Association	0	4	4
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	2	2	4
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	3	1	4
Hertford College Youths	0	4	4
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Guild ...	3	0	3
Surrey Association	1	2	3
Worcester and adjoining Districts Association	1	2	3
United Counties' Association	0	2	2
Winchester Diocesan Guild	1	1	2
Hertford Association	0	2	2
The Holt Society	1	1	2
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ...	1	0	1
Kent County Association	1	0	1
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	0	1	1
Waterloo Society, London	0	1	1
Liverpool Youths' Society	0	1	1
Birmingham Amalgamated Society ...	0	1	1
Eastern Counties Guild	1	0	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association	1	0	1
Independent Societies	5	13	18
	54	77	131
Less peals entered under two Associations	2	5	7
Total	52	72	124

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 2; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 4; Stedman Caters, 5; Stedman Triples, 13; Treble Bob Royal, 2; Treble Bob Major, 15; Prince Albert Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 6; Grandsire Triples, 47; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 4; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 2; Union Triples, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 5; Bob Triples, 4; in 7 Minor Methods on six bells, 4; in one ditto, 1; in fourteen methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 1; total 124. Greatest number of changes in any one of above peals 10,080. Quickest 5000 on church bells, 2 hrs. 29 mins., rung at Capel in Surrey.

	1887	1888
Number of peals rung in January...	50	52
" " " February	76	72

Brighton. GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the past year is now ready for distribution, containing times of practice at churches in union; performances; balance sheet; and list of members. It is issued at the reduced price of twopence to members whose subscriptions have been paid, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take copies, so that the whole edition may be utilised. Members requiring copies will please send word to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Romford, on Saturday, April 7th. Further particulars will be given in "THE BELL NEWS" of March 24th and 31st. Subscriptions still due for the current year ending at Whitsuntide, should be forwarded to me at once.

T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

THE LIVERSEDGE ALBERT HANDBELL RINGERS, YORKSHIRE.—PRESENTATION.

On Monday evening, March 5th, upwards of fifty honorary and performing members of the above band held a meeting in the band room, to present to their late Secretary, Mr. G. E. Saville, who has removed from the district, with a gold medal, and also Mr. Tom Goodall with a similar medal, for their services rendered to the band since 1877. Mr. J. W. Donkersley presided, and opened the meeting with a few remarks, and called upon the band to ring one of their prize selections, which gave great satisfaction to all present.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and complimented the band on their past success, and hoped their future would be as successful. He then referred to the presentation, and spoke in great praise of Mr. Saville for the very efficient manner in which he had always carried out his duties on behalf of the band, and said he had great pleasure in presenting him with the medal, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. G. E. Saville, by the L. A. H. B. Ringers, for services rendered as Secretary, 1888."

Mr. SAVILLE expressed his thanks for the unexpected gift, which he said he should always look upon with pride as a memento of his connection with the band, and still as a member would always be ready to render every assistance that lay in his power.

The CHAIRMAN then complimented Mr. Goodall for his long patience and perseverance, and hoped he would long be united, and that success would crown his labours as conductor of the band. On behalf of the band he had much pleasure in presenting him with a medal, which bears the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. Tom Goodall by the L. A. H. B. Ringers for his services rendered as conductor, 1888." He hoped that both would live long to wear them.

Mr. GOODALL thanked the chairman and band for their splendid gift, and hoped if health and strength and business would allow, he should always be united with them.

The band then played "Auld Lang Syne," and then rang a course of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major on two octaves of eight.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he was glad to see the tune ringers and change-ringers so much united together, as the tune ringers consisted of both parties. He hoped they would always remain so, so that they might be successful in all their contests.

At the conclusion hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for the manner in which he made the presentation and conducted the meeting. A verse of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

RE-OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, LEEDS, YORKS.

On Easter Monday, April 2nd, the above bells, which have been undergoing a thorough repair by Messrs. T. Mallaby and Sons, Masham, Yorks., will be re-opened by the Leeds company attempting the late J. Tebbs' celebrated peal of Grandsire Caters (5579 changes), containing the sixty course-ends, commencing at 6 o'clock a.m. After the peal the tower and handbells will be at the disposal of visitors during the day. The Leeds company will be glad to see as many brother ringers as can make it convenient to attend, and will also do their best to make up companies.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND HANDBELL COMPETITION will take place at the Annual Meeting of the Association on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The names of all the members of a band, together with the necessary entrance fees, must be forwarded to me not later than Monday, March 19th, mentioning at the same time the prizes for which it is desired to compete. Local Honorary Secretaries will please bear in mind that "no member whose subscription to the Association is in arrear will be allowed to compete."

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5 *St. Paul's Street East Burton-on-Trent.*

WANTED, immediately, a Churchman, as BELL-INSTRUCTOR to the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.—Apply to the Rev. G. M. CUSTANCE, Secretary, Colwall Rectory, Malvern.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS FOR ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, WELLS, SOMERSETSHIRE.

Mainly through the efforts of the amateur bell-ringing society, assisted by the generous aid of the citizens, Messrs. Taylor, the eminent bell-founders, of Loughborough, were some time ago commissioned to cast two new bells for St. Cuthbert's church tower, to complete a peal of eight which it was the ambition of the ringers should form a kind of Jubilee commemoration, and they are to be congratulated on the attainment of their commendable desire. Having obtained the funds for the new bells, a somewhat serious and discouraging discovery was made on examining the bell-cage, which was found to be in a most dilapidated and dangerous condition, and that a new cage would have to be provided, in addition to which the fifth bell was cracked, and would require recasting. Under these circumstances, an appeal was made to the parishioners, and was responded to in so generous a spirit, that sufficient funds were soon obtained for a new cage, and the contract for this also was placed in the hands of Messrs. Taylor, the necessary woodwork and beams being supplied and erected by Messrs. Wicks and Son, and the work altogether has been done to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. There then only remained the difficulty of the fifth bell to be overcome, and Mr. and Mrs. Slater nobly came forward and undertook to defray the cost of recasting. On Monday, March 5th, the dedication of the two new bells and the re-dedication of the fifth took place in the presence of a large congregation. At half-past two o'clock the amateur bellringers, with the children of the Central Schools, bearing flags and banners, with the Excelsior brass band, under the conductorship of Mr. A. Hillier, assembled at the Somerset and Dorset railway station, where the bells, gaily decorated with evergreens and banners, were already placed on trolleys. Shortly before three o'clock the band took up their position at the head of the procession which perambulated the town, the bells being drawn by the amateur ringers, and caused some excitement, there being large numbers of spectators in the streets. On arriving at the church, the bells were drawn up in front of the belfry door, and, with the members of the amateur bell-ringing society, were photographed by Mr. J. Webber. The bells were then drawn into the church beneath the tower, for the performance of the ceremony. The vicar (the Rev. Prebendary Beresford), the Revs. J. Smethurst and Morris, and the choir, ranged themselves around the bells. The lesser litany and the Lord's Prayer were intoned, and the 150th Psalm chanted in unison to Humphrey's "Grand" chant. Then followed the dedication prayers and a short address by the Vicar. The service was most impressively rendered, and was heartily joined in by the large congregation of parishioners and others. A special hymn was sung, the first verse of which was as follows:

Lift them gently to the tower,
Let our bells be set on high,
There fulfil their sacred mission,
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.

The late fifth (present seventh) bell was then struck twelve times by one of the workmen, and proved to be of a full, mellow, and deep tone, and after the vibration had ceased, the vicar pronounced the benediction, and the service concluded. Many persons remained after the service, and saw the bell hoisted.

The inscription on the fifth bell is:—

"Re-cast A.D. 1888."
"To the glory of God, and in memory of G. C. Hollis, and Mary his wife, by J. and F. Slater, their son-in-law and daughter."

On the treble:—

"Presented by the Wells Amateur Bell-Ringing Society.
Queen's Jubilee, 1887.
J. Beresford, Vicar and President.
J. N. Knight, Leader.
E. S. L. Collins, Hon. Sec.
'We praise Thee, O God.'"

On the second:—

"Presented by the Wells Amateur Bell-Ringing Society.
Queen's Jubilee, 1887.
F. W. Smith, G. Thorn } Churchwardens.
'We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.'"

It was intended that the procession should have included members of friendly Societies and others, but owing to the short notice the ringers were able to give, this was found to be impracticable.

An accident occurred during the procession. A boy was pushed down by another, and the wheel of one of the trolleys passed partly over his leg and back, but it was found that he had sustained no serious injury.

The peal will be heard for the first time on Easter-day.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, February 28th, there was a friendly gathering of ringers in Birmingham to celebrate the 79th birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson. A peal of Stedman Cinques was attempted by H. Bastable, 1; W. R. Small, 2; H. Johnson, jun., 3; T. Reynolds, 4; A. Thomas, 5; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 6; J. W. Cartwright, 7; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (Derby), 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; T. Miller, 10; E. Pemberton (Bury St. Edmunds), 11; E. Rowland (Wrexham), 12; but after ringing over two hours and a half, it unfortunately was lost through a "foul." At six p.m., some twenty-four ringers assembled at the "Woolpack Hotel," Moor Street, where an excellent dinner had been provided by Mr. Wheeler. The chair was occupied by W. Jones, Esq., Churchwarden of St. Martin's, and the vice-chair by A. P. Heywood, Esq. After getting well through another *fowl course*, the cloth was removed, and a very enjoyable evening spent.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the loyal toast, after which A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq., in a very neat speech (which through the absence of a reporter we are unable to publish), gave the toast of "Our dear Old Mother Church."

Mr. C. HATTERSLEY was entrusted with the toast of the evening, and in proposing "The Health of Mr. Johnson," said it was now about twenty-one years since he first had the pleasure of making his acquaintance, and when he looked back upon that time, he felt how very much he was indebted to Mr. Johnson for what he had done for the science.

This toast was received with musical honours, after which touches of Triples, Caters, and Cinques were rung upon the handbells, and the remainder of the evening enlivened with songs and recitations from Mr. J. Ward.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

The above society of change-ringers beg to announce that it is their intention to hold a ringing day at the above place on Easter Monday, when they will be pleased to welcome as many visitors as may be disposed to attend. A dinner will be provided at the "Green Dragon" inn at two o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each. Those visitors who intend dining with the society, will oblige by forwarding their names not later than Saturday, March 24th, to the Secretary, W. C. DYMOCK.

"*Green Dragon*" *Inn, Waltham Abbey, Essex.*

HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at "The Ring of Bells," on Thursday, March 29th, at 7.45 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, *Sec.*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

12041.

2 3 1 4 5 6	4	5	16	
*5 1 2 3 4 6				The last eleven courses nine
4 1 2 6 5 3	–	–	–	times repeated, with a single
4 1 3 2 5 6			–	at 16 in the 10th course of
4 1 6 3 5 2			–	5th and 10th parts, and extra
6 1 4 2 5 3		–	–	bobs at 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, in
6 1 3 4 5 2			–	last course.
6 1 2 3 5 4			–	*Bobs at 11, 14, 15, 17, 18,
2 1 6 4 5 3		–	–	19, 20.
2 1 3 6 5 4			–	Rung at Appleton, Berks.,
3 1 2 4 5 6		–	–	on Monday, March 5th, 1888,
3 1 6 2 5 4			–	conducted by its composer.
3 1 4 6 5 2			–	

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

COALBROOKDALE.

Early in the year 1883, by some unforeseen circumstances, fate or otherwise, I found myself engaged in some business transactions at Bridgnorth, an antique picturesque old town literally overhanging the river Severn, but as I propose in a future issue of our journal to describe its characteristics in connection with bells and ringers, I will not at present give my readers any information concerning it excepting the fact of my having formed a firm friendship with Mr. John Overton during three months' residence there. The only misgiving I have experienced in reference to my visit, is a doubtfulness if the many happy afternoons we spent in each other's company will ever again be repeated. It was during one of those enjoyable afternoons together that I first saw Coalbrookdale, the title with which I have headed this article, and it is due to Mr. Overton's assistance that I am able to place before my brother ringers a few particulars concerning the place with the vain hope of pleasing them. Whenever the word "we" is introduced, please remember that that word applies to two two ringers bearing the names of Jack and Bill.

On the 25th day of February in the year named, we left Bridgnorth by the Great Western Severn Valley Railway, for Madeley, from which station we walked to Ironbridge, a town so termed from the fact that a substantial bridge was built in 1779 across the river Severn in one span; it is still doing good service, and is admitted to be the first iron bridge built in England. Not far from this bridge I had an opportunity of examining a large wheel constructed of wood, sixty feet diameter. Jack asked what would be the weight of a bell cast in proportionate size to this wheel. I wonder? said I at the time, but during the interval between then and now I have been able to ascertain, roughly calculating—that a bell weighing in cwts. the amount represented by the following figures 1,258,291,200 would require a similar wheel were it possible to swing it by such means. The motive power of the wheel is simply water, its use, seed-grinding, and is expected to be the largest in working order in England.

About a walk of a mile after crossing the bridge, brought us to Coalbrookdale—a winding glen, two miles from Madeley, hemmed in by lofty hills and hanging woods, noted for the most considerable iron works in England, the forges, mills, and steam-engines, with all their various machinery—the flaming furnaces and smoking chimneys, with handsome residences nestling under the cliffs of the hills, create a most singular, yet romantic appearance, and it is possible in no other parts, are features so wonderful or numerous, amalgamated in so small an area. What would have been nothing more than a wild wilderness, is transformed into one of the most animated centres of commerce, while the numerous handsome residences in the locality add to the scene. Here is situated the Coalbrookdale Iron Company, a firm well known for the superiority of their castings and iron goods of every description—in connection with which the Darby family are chiefly connected, they are also the principal landowners in the Dale.

Most of the older houses are built in an half-timbered style, peculiar to the district, one house bearing the date of its erection, 1642, on a shield affixed to the front of the building. Those ringers who have visited Coalbrookdale will remember it well, as it stands in a prominent position.

The Church, a spacious handsome Gothic structure, with a bold tower and well tended churchyard, is situated on the right hand side of the main road to Wellington, four and a half miles distant, on the slopes of the neighbouring hills which encompass the dale. We were indebted to Mr. J. Pritchard, the sexton, for his courtesy in shewing us over the sacred edifice which was presented to the parish with a living for an incumbent, by Abraham Darby, Esquire, his sister presenting the organ, and his brother the bells. His wife also in the same generous and liberal manner supported a commodious school for girls and infants. The belfry we found a very convenient chamber, fair ropes falling in good circle, short draught, and bells in excellent order. In 1854, the year the church was opened, a clock was erected in the tower at a cost of £270. On September 29th of the same year, a large well written board was placed in the ringing-room, on which is set forth various appropriate rules and regulations for the guidance of the local ringers, a body of men, I must add, who practised change-ringing, as will be seen by the copy of a tablet in the tower as follows:

"October 17th, 1859. The Coalbrookdale Alma society of change-ringers rang in this tower a complete peal of Treble Bob Triples, composed by J. Lates, of Birmingham, consisting of 5040 changes, with forty bobs and forty singles. The peal was conducted by John Rogers, and rung by the following in 3 hrs. 10 mins. Willm. Aston, treble; George Cooper, 2; Geo. Beardshaw, 3; Geo. Parker, 4; Thomas Parker, 5; Thomas Downing, 6; John Rogers, 7; Jos. Pritchard, tenor. Tenor one ton."

It will be seen this company accomplished their first peal five years after their formation, perhaps Mr. Pritchard will tell us of any other performances which may have been done by them. At all events, the present members of the Alma Society should endeavour to sustain its character as a body of change-ringers. Certainly they receive their remuneration for services rendered in connection with the Church in a more honourable way than that of any other parish society I know of, viz., by a special collection in their own Church. That their labours are appreciated by the congregation will be judged by the liberal amount of the offertories collected on Sunday, February 12th, and acknowledged in this journal on the 25th ult. The weight of the tenor given at the bottom of the peal board is not quite correct, I here give the weight of each bell, which together form a fine toned octave in the key of E, cast at Whitechapel in 1852. The sixth is a maiden bell, and the total weight of the peal is 77 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs., and on each the makers' name and date appears.

"C. and G. Mears, Founders, London, 1852."

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	
Tenor.	19	2	10	diameter 48¼ inches.
Seventh.	12	2	18	
Sixth.	10	0	13	
Fifth.	9	0	19	
Fourth.	7	2	7	
Third.	6	2	20	
Second.	5	3	16	
Treble.	5	2	24	

With regard to the hanging, all are on the same level, and we found plenty of room to walk round the bells between the frame and the tower walls. On leaving the Church, a rest was made at the "White Horse," where I bade farewell to Mr. Pritchard for the first and last time, Jack and I continuing our walk in the direction of Broseley. W. H. F.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING will be held at Ely on Easter Monday, April 2nd. Full particulars in next week's "BELL NEWS." Members and friends intending to be present, are requested to send in their names without delay to K. H. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
The Cambridge Road, Ely.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

There will be no meeting at St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday next, the 20th inst. The meeting at St. Michael's, Cornhill, will be held on Thursday evening, the 22nd inst., at 8.15 sharp, instead of Friday, the 23rd inst. RICHARD T. WOODLEY,
Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD (Herts).—On Monday, March 5th, at All Saints church] for practice, 504 Stedman Triples, by the local company. J. Jauncey 1; H. Phillips, 2; J. Staples, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; J. Cull, 6; S. Knight, 7; F. George, 8. Conducted by S. Knight, it being his first time of conducting Stedman. Tenor 22 cwt. On Tuesday, March 6th, on the occasion of Mr. Justice Denman coming to Hertford, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Pomfret, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; J. Staples, 3; H. Phillips, 4; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 5; J. Cull, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; F. George, 8.

*** *Correspondence, touches, and several other items are unavoidably left over till next week.*

WANTED.—A pair of small bells, for striking quarters in a turret clock; should weigh together about 2 cwt.—Address, stating size, note and price, E.D.M., Lambrook, Bracknell.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" *will be forwarded, post free, on the following terms:—*

One copy,	12 months	6*s.* 6*d.*
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All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, *Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

R. A. KIDWELL.—Use black-lead only.

Will our correspondent who enquired about "Monk" kindly write again?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

WITH this number the sixth yearly volume of "THE BELL NEWS" is completed. Whatever may be its shortcomings, the only one who is now left of its original founders looks back with no small degree of satisfaction to the position which this journal has earned, and in fact continues to enjoy among the Exercise. Many of our ringing brethren remember the time when their only source for the publication of their doings was necessarily limited, short notices, reporting about two peals per week on the average, were all that the newspaper known as *Bell's Life in London* could afford for the edification of ringers. As time rolled on, and the taxation on paper became abolished, greater facilities were given for newspaper enterprise, and our present respected contemporary became the acknowledged medium for the Exercise at large. Such advances, however, had been made in the spread of change-ringing, that in a few years the time was considered ripe for a ringers' paper, which should apply itself more directly to the subject, and "THE BELL NEWS" thereupon became an acknowledged fact. Our first supporters, nearly all of whom we are happy to say remain with us at the present day, will recollect the struggles our journalistic adventure had to endure and overcome. With us, they are pleased that our joint endeavours have succeeded so well, and not only so, but that the friendships formed and cemented between us during those initial efforts are at the end of the sixth volume not impaired in the least.

There are several practical suggestions before us relative to changes of one sort or other being made, which will in all probability be effected during the next volume. Perhaps this sentence will be sufficient to show those who have made suggestions that their proposals will meet with due consideration at the earliest moment. The changes if carried into effect will certainly not be unimportant from several points of view.

At this period we should like to bring before the notice of our readers an idea which has occurred to us of late, *i.e.*, the establishment of a Ringers' Directory. We are desirous of having the name and address of every ringer in the world. This list is not intended for publication, but we should keep it at our office as a register for general reference, and no unworthy use would be made of it. If the Exercise at any time desired that it should be printed, of course there would be no objection to such a wish. Often are we asked for the address of such and such a ringer, and if we had at hand a register of the kind we are speaking of it would be very convenient. We therefore hope ringers will co-operate with us in this matter, and everyone send us their correct name and address on a post card during the coming week. The cost of assisting in this movement will be but trifling—the price of a post-card. Secretaries of societies will no doubt be good enough to take the hint. Let us see how many will respond to this before our next number appears.

Here, before concluding, we would thank all our brethren for the confidence and support they have awarded us. The past six years have not been uneventful, even as a history of our journal. Six years of the prime of life being over, naturally creates some thought about the close of a similar period in the future. As time goes on we shall have to resign our task to younger and more competent hands, though it is our desire to hang on till the last moment, to die in harness, in fact, like all good ringers do. Till then, through evil report and good report, we ask our friends for a continuance of that co-operation which they have so ungrudgingly given to "THE BELL NEWS," and the almost uniform courtesy given to ourselves during the past six years.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, March 11, 1888, *in Two Hours and Twenty-and-a-½-Minutes,*

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY R. NEWTON ..	1–2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	5–6.
GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	3–4.	CHALLIS F. WINNY ..	7–8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpires, Mr. Pearce of Maidstone, and Messrs. G. Wild and W. H. Judd of London. This peal was rung to commemorate the non-conducted handbell peal (Holt's Original), rung on March 11th, 1887.

The Provinces.

GLOUCESTER—THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1888, *in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE WANKLYN ..	..*Treble.*	JOHN THOMAS	5.
SYDNEY ROMANS.. ..	2.	JOSEPH CLARK	6.
FRANK HART*	3.	*BENJAMIN ETHERIDGE ..	7.
RAYMOND WILKINS ..	4.	HENRY EAKETTS ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE WANKLYN.

* First peal of Triples. The above is the first peal on the bells.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY	*Treble.*	JOHN T. HOLDEN	5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE	2.	MOSES BRADBURY	6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY	3.	JOSEPH WOOD	7.
JOHN HOLDEN	4.	*WM. GREENLEAF	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

* College Youth. The peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. John Holden, his brother ringers wish him many happy returns. Mr. W. Greenleaf hails from London.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Thursday March 8, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN	*Treble.*	HENRY BURSTOW	5.
THOMAS ANDREWS	2.	FELIX KNIGHT	6.
HARRY COOK	3.	*WALTER CHARMAN	7.
WILLIAM SHORT	4.	HENRY CHANDLER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

*First peal as conductor.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PRITCHARD'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25¾ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT	*Treble.*	JAMES SHOLICAR	5.
CHARLES SHARPLES	2.	JOHN WALKER	6.
WILLIAM ELLIS	3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT	7.
JOHN ASPINWALL	4.	PETER H. HARVEY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung in honour of Mr. P. H. Harvey's 22nd birthday, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also on the occasion of the Silver Wedding of H.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales. Mr. John Walker hails from Blackburn.

HEMPSTEAD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 9, 1888, *in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

Being 10 6-scores with plain leads and 32 with extreme leads.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F♯.

ARTHUR E. PEGLER*	*Treble.*	*WILLIAM T. PEGLER	4.
SIDNEY E. ROMANS	2.	*GEORGE TAYLOR	5.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS	3.	*ERNEST E. BEWICK	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM PEGLER.

*First 5040 in any method. Each six-score called differently. Messrs. Wilkin and Romans hails from Gloucester; the rest belong to the local company.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK	*Treble.*	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	5.
THOMAS SHORT	2.	WILLIAM NAPPER	6.
HAROLD HUMPHREY*	3.	*JOHN BROWN	7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN*	4.	HARRY HYDE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Stedman. Mr. Blackbourn hails from Salisbury.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES; Tenor 17 cwt.

HENRY MIDGLEY*	*Treble.*	GEORGE HINGLEY	5.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD	2.	JOHN HOWE	6.
SAMUEL JOHNSON	3.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN	7.
EVAN MORETON	4.	WILLIAM HICKLING	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

It had been intended to ring a peal to celebrate H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' silver wedding day, but in consequence of the death of H.M. the Empe ror of Germany, the bells were instead rung half-muffled. In this composition the 2nd is never in either 5ths or 6ths place. *First peal.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt in E♭.

CHARLES DRAPER*	*Treble.*	CHARLES HART	5.
THOMAS ALTON	2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD	6.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON	3.	JOHN WM. THOMPSON	7.
WILLIAM MIDGLEY	4.	*THOMAS ALLBUT	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD.

*First peal. Rang in honour of the Silver wedding of their R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE STEYNING BRANCH).

Silver Wedding Peal.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

WOODBINE, KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, AND PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 12 cwt.

J. MATTHEWS*	*Treble.*	C. CHAMBERS	4.
F. MORRIS†	2.	J. WOOLGAR	5.
G. GATLAND	3.	C. TYLER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. The above was rung to celebrate the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

Handbell Ringing.

On Monday, March 12, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,*

AT THE OAK LANE ROOMS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 size, in D.

WILLIAM MOTTS	1-2.	*ALBERT E. DURRANT	7-8.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	3-4.	FREDERICK TILLETT	9-10.
JAMES MOTTS	5-6.	SAMUEL TILLETT	11-12.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

* First peal.

Referee: Mr. Robert Hawes, who took down every lead as they were rung. It is supposed to be the first peal of Maximus ever rung on handbells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

Silver Wedding Peal.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS	*Treble.*	FREDERICK RICE	5.
GEORGE WICKENS	2.	WILLIAM COLLISON	6.
FREDERICK WICKENS	3.	ALFRED F. HILLIER	7.
BENJAMIN KING	4.	EDWARD PEARCE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

The above was rung to commemorate the silver wedding of their R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALFRED PEACHEY	*Treble.*	WILLIAM GREEN	5.
WILLIAM CASTER	2.	CHARLES RAMPLIN	6.
JOB BREWSTER	3.	GEORGE KNOCK	7.
CHARLES MEE	4.	GEORGE BARCLAY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Charles Mee hails from Ipswich, and was proposed a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal, the rest are members of St. Nicholas, Harwich. This is the first peal by all except the conductor; and the first in the method on the bells, and was rung in honour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Silver Wedding.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1888, *in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WALTER REA	*Treble.*	WILLIAM JAMES	6.
OLIVER JAMES	2.	GEORGE HAYWARD	7.
WILLIAM HARTSHORNE	3.	ALFRED MOORE	8.
THOMAS LEES†	4.	*JAMES BROAD	9.
ELIJAH CRUMP	5.	GEORGE BOURNE	*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal in the method. Mr. Hartshorne hails from Brierley Hill; Mr. Lees from Stourbridge; Mr. Moore from Hanbury; Mr. Broad from Chaddesley; the rest belong to Bromsgrove. The peal was rung to commemorate the Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1888, *in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP	*Treble.*	JOSEPH MALONEY	5.
JAMES SELLARS	2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM	6.
JOHN HARROP	3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.	7.
HENRY COOPER	4.	JOHN PYE, JUN.	*Tenor.*

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

The above peal was rung in honour of the birthday of James Sellars, his brother ringers wish him many happy returns.

Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Tuesday, March 7th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. B. Starkey, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; S. Slater, 3; J. Siddons, 4; E. Cashmore, 5; S. Smith, 6; W. Cooper, 7; G. Griffiths, 8. This date touch was composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, and has the 6-7 together for more than 1600 changes.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY.—On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine service, eight members of the above association rang at St. Paul's church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Lilley, 1; G. A. O. Nettleton, 2; J. S. Clark, 3; W. Wilks, 4; J. Lilley, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. A. Ross, 7; F. Landon, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

GARGRAVE.—On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service, eight members of the above association rang a date touch of 1888 Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 1hr. 13 mins. Chas. E. Bull, 1; J. Wane, 2; W. Clarke, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; H. Birtwistle, 5; J. McGoun, 6; C. Langstroth, 7; J. McKell (conductor), 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Andrews' church, a date touch, of 1888 changes, was rung of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor, in 1 hr. 10 mins., to commemorate the Silver Wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. E. Hampton, 1; H. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Friday, February 9th, being the day of the funeral of the late Duke of Rutland, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, a muffled peal was attempted at All Saints' church, by the Loughborough branch of the above Association. But unfortunately after ringing nearly 3 hrs., a mistake occurred and the conductor had to call stand. A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billingshurst, 2; G. Draycott, 3; A. Millis, 4; S. Smith, 5; A. R. Aldham, 6; J. Hardy, 7; W. Birkenshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Saturday evening, March 3rd, at the Abbey church of St. Margaret, for practice, a 503 of Grandsire Triples. A. Deards, 1; Y. Green, 2; *F. Norris, 3; *A. Whight, 4; *J. H. King, 5; *J. Norris, 6; S. Hayes (conductor), 7; *A. Rowe, 8. *Longest touch. The tower is now closed for ringing during restoration until further notice.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, March 11th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. W. Hammond, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also 240 New London Pleasure. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIBSEY.—On Saturday, March 10th, several members of the above Association visited this place by the kind invitation of the vicar (the Rev. F. Besant), and rang at the parish church 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27½ mins. E. Mason, 1; J. A. Head, 2; A. Barber, 3; J. Mawer, 4; H. Daulton (conductor), 5; J. Sharp, 6.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. James's church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 48 mins. J. Sugden, 1; B. Emmott, 2; J. Mawson, 3; G. Titterington, 4; A. Riley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; R. Atkinson, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. The above was rung as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday evening, March 4th, after Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. C. Trevett, 1; W. Anderson, 2; S. Phillips, 3; F. Ellis, 4; J. Hinton, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, March 6th, 1260 Plain Bob Triples, in 46 mins. *G. Dukes, 1; *H. Woodhall, 2; *C. Daniel, 3; J. Palmer, 4; *R. Beasley, 5; *J. A. Meredith, 6; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 7; *C. Worton, 8. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. †J. A. Meredith, 1; †H. Woodhall, 2; C. Daniel, 3; †R. Beasley, 4; C. Beasley, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method. Messrs. Palmer, Parsons, and Mason hail from Old Hill. *Members of the Worcester and adjoining Districts Association.

DEDHAM (Essex).—On Wednesday afternoon, February 29th, the local company met and rang several touches during the afternoon, to celebrate the birthday of Mr. N. Saunders, who attained his 81st birthday on the above date. Mr. Saunders was the master and conductor of the Dedham company, but he has not done anything in the art for the last ten or twelve years. *Handbell Ringing.*—In the evening 720 Bob Minor was rung on the handbells. J. Taylor, 1-2;

W. Smith, 3-4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5-6. Afterwards the company sat down to a capital tea, provided by Mr. Saunders, to which ample justice was done. The company wished him many happy returns of the day, and hoped that he might be spared to see another birthday.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Thomas's church, the local company attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 2 hrs. 15 mins. it came to grief owing to the tenor going so badly. E. Fellows, jun., 1; F. Fellows, 2; J. Mills, 3; E. Fellows, sen., 4; J. Fellows, jun., 5; J. Fellows, sen., 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; W. Micklewright, 8; J. Goodman, 9; J. Timmins, 10.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, March 7th, the local company rang for practice, a 720 of Superlative Surprise. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman (conductor), 4; G. Marsden, 5; F. Lunn, 6. First 720 in the method by all.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 19th, for Divine Service, at the parish church, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. *A. Fuller, 1; J. King, 2; A. Taylor, 3; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 4; G. Hnmm, 5. *First attempt at Grandsire Doubles. A. Fuller belongs to Great Bentley.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 22nd, for practice, at the parish church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Fuller, 1; J. King, 2; J. Starling, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5; A. Bloice, 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. *A. Fuller, 1; G. Bowell, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. J. Nevard, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; A. Bloice, 6. *First attempt on six bells. A. Fuller, J. King, and W. J. Nevard hails from Great Bentley; the rest belong to the local company.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Thursday, evening, March 8th, for practice, at the church of St. John-of-Jeruslam, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. J. Smith, 1; F. Rumens, 2; J. Carmichael, 3; A. Cutmore, 4; W. D. Smith (conductor), 5; W. B. Manning, 6; E. Turner, 7; *Phil. Gaymer, 8. *First quarter-peal.

LISCARD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, an attempt to ring a peal of Bob Major (5040 changes) came to grief after ringing 2016 changes in 1 hr. 15 mins. Richard S. Mann (conductor), 1; William Booth, 2; Thomas Hammond, 3; William James, 4; John R. Pritchard (composer), 5; Henry Coley, 6; George Fisher, 7; William Davies, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, by desire of the Vicar, as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. The ringers afterwards adjourned to the house of Mr. Roberts, clerk, and opened his new peal of nineteen handbells, in G, by Taylor. Two courses of Grandsire Caters were rung by the following: John R. Pritchard 1-2; Richard S. Mann, 3-4; William James, 5-6; Thomas Hammond, 7-8; William Davies, 9-10. And a course of Bob Major. J. R. Pritchard, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; W. Davies. 7-8.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales). –On Tuesday, February 21st, 305 Grandsire Triples. David Evans, 1; R. A. Horspool, 2; J. W. Davies (conductor), 3; J. Davies, 4; E. Rowland, 5; J. W. Parry, 6; T. Davies, 7; W. Scott, 8. The above band have been instructed by Mr. E. Rowland, of Wrexham, and have only been formed a few months, and are a very promising company. The above is the longest touch rung by them. Tenor 17½ cwt.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, March 9th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 3; H. Mason, 4; A. H. Bassano, Esq., 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 2; A. H. Bassano, Esq., 3; H. Mason, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also on Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. R. Round, 1; H. Mason, 2; R. Bird, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12¼ cwt. The Messrs. Bassano, Mason, and Bird, hail from Old Hill; Micklewright from Dudley; Robinson from Kates Hill; the rest belong to the local company.

SHREWSBURY.—On Monday, March 5th, at St. Chad's church, with the bells deeply muffled, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. B. Bratton, 1; H. E. Morrice, 2; T. Price, 3; T. Groves, 4; J. E. Groves, 5; T. Burd (conductor), 6; A. Griffiths, 7; J. Blount, 8. Tenor 41 cwt. Also at St. Julian's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. B. Bratton, 1; J. E. Groves, 2; T. Burd (conductor), 3; T. Groves, 4; A. Griffiths, 5; H. E. Morrice, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. The above touches were rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. J. Yardley, who died on St. Chad's Day, March 2nd, from a stroke which he received the week previous. He had been vicar of St. Chad's over fifty-one years, and had reached the age of eighty-three years.

THERNINGTON (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, February 26th, before Divine Service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Fuller, 1; J. King, 2; A. Taylor, 3; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 4; G. Humm, 5. Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, February 26th, at the parish church, 720 College Single Minor, in 27 mins. And on Friday evening, March 2nd, 448 Plain Bob Minor, 360 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, 72 Grandsire Minor, and 120 College Single Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. The above 720 and touches were rung with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. W. Wilson, of "The Priory," Walton. Messrs. Yates, Short, Rushton, Barton and Bradshaw hail from Bootle. Tenor 9 cwt.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 7th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Major. A. Edwards, 1; J. Everard, 2; R. Wood, 3; F. Radley, 4; H. F. deLisle, Esq., 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch of Bob Major by all the band. And a 252 Plain Bob Triples, with W. Piper, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; A. Bennington, 8. First touch of Bob Triples by all. Also on handbells, 120 Stedman Doubles. A. Edwards, 1; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 2; W. J. Piper, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5-6. These five (from three different parishes) can seldom meet together, and can persuade no one else in their respective companies to tackle Stedman with them; so progress in the method is necessarily slow. On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with 6, 8 covering. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; F. Radley, 5; A. Bennington, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickins, Esq., 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 12TH, 1888:—

By the Angmering branch at Angmering.—On March 7th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Parsons, 1; T. Parsons, 2; C. Clear, 3; J. Barnett, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Tuesday, March 6th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. J. Searle, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; *Harry Miles, 3; J. Fox, 4; W. J. Fisher, 5; G. A. King (conductor), 6; W. Palmer, 7; H. Boniface, 8. *First 500 on an inside bell). Also on Wednesday, March 7th, at St. Peter's, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. E. Golds, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8. And a 576 of Duffield Major. A. A. Fuller, 1; J. Reilly, 2; H. Weston, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; J. Searle, 5; W. J. Fisher, 6; G. A. King, 7; G. F. Attree (conductor), 8.

By the Crawley branch at Crawley.—On March 5th, an attempt for a peal of Union Triples, which failed after ringing 1200 changes, in 43 mins. W. Parsons, 1; G. Wickens, 2; F. Wickens (conductor), 3; B. King, 4; F. Rice, 5; M. Heffer, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; W. Collison, 8. Also on Saturday, March 10th, a 5040 of Union Triples, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. (For particulars see peal column).

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. And on Saturday, March 10th, a peal of Triples was attempted. which came to grief after ringing 2600 changes in 1 hr. 33 mins. R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. This was a ten-part peal taken from the *Clavis*, and is the longest touch by all except the conductor.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Saturday, March 10th, a 5040 in seven different Minor methods. (For particulars see peal column). And on Sunday, March 11th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland (conductor), 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; J. Woolgar, 6.

By the Worth branch at Worth.—On Wednesday, February 29th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Stoner, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob. F. Streeter, 1; E. Streeter, 2; J. Tullett, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; B. Payne, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, March 4th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman 2; J. Tullett, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. B. Payne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Double Oxford. F. Streeter, 1; J. Gasson, 2; F. Rice, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court. B. Payne, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Thursday, March 8th, a 5040 of Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. (For particulars see peal column).

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

WANTED.—Situation in any capacity where practical carpentering would be essential. Good scholar. Change-ringer. Excellent references.—ED. LEE, Bridge Cottage, Bagshot, Surrey.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Give honour to whom honour is due."

The principal event recorded last week is without doubt the long peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton. I feel sure I shall not be laying myself open to the charge of fulsome flattery when I say that the whole Exercise will doubtless be proud of this great achievement by our brethren of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The performance indeed is one of that nature which carries with it in an estimable degree its own commendation, and consequently requires no laudatory "blowing of trumpets." On my own part—and, I dare say, in this I do but express the feelings of great nnmbers of our friends—while congratulating the good vicar of Drayton and his band on this event, my only disappointment in the matter is that I had not the pleasure of hearing the peal.

* * * * *

"The course-ends rolling up like clock-work." That is one of the most satisfactory statements of the report. Had it been otherwise, and the ringing been characterised by bad or indifferent striking throughout, some persons might have been tempted to say that it was the length of the peal and not the good ringing which was the main object. But this piece of information sets at rest all doubts on that score; and if further proof were necessary, it is furnished in an ample degree by the congratulations of such a representative body of ringers as were present outside the tower.

* * * * *

The College Youths' "longest length" of Stedman Caters having been thus eclipsed, it now remains to be seen how long this Appleton peal is destined to carry the palm.

* * * * *

But our friends of the Oxford Guild are evidently not content with this "beating record" in Stedman Caters. I see they intend disposing of the present longest length of Grandsire Caters in like manner on Easter Monday next. Well, success attend them! May they be as fortunate in their next attempt as they were on March 5th; and then no one can possibly object were they to consider themselves for a time fairly entitled to "rest for a time on their laurels."

* * * * *

No doubt your readers will have been highly amused by the perusal of the very interesting paper on "The Oddities of Parish Clerks," by the Rev. W. McKean. I rather imagine, however, that many ringers could relate dealings of a varied character with these relics of a past generation. I myself have many recollections of the doings of these gentlemen; but, perhaps unlike others, my experiences have been invariably of a pleasant—not to say humorous—nature, Some of my friends I know have not been so fortunate. They have many times experienced to the full the inconvenience and annoyance of the unwarranted interference of these officials with their ringing arrangements. In the days when choir stalls were comparatively unknown, and befries all but deserted, these gentlemen too often "ruled the roast" with a vengeance. The parson was but a supernumerary compared with his high mightiness the clerk: and the parish knew it accordingly—or if they did'nt it was through no fault of his. But, happily, in this matter, as in many others, times have changed: and not too soon. The old "parson and clerk duet" has been replaced by orderly-appointed chancels and surpliced choirs; so have the cobwebs, the rooks, and the dirt, been banished from many of our towers, and the belfries become occupied by intelligent men who know their position and the responsibility of their work. These parish clerks served their purpose for a time when lethargy in Church matters was the ruling order of the day; but with the advancement of intelligence and its accompanying vigour in Church life, their occupation is in a great measure gone, and officiousness terminated. So be it!

* * * * *

"There is no rule without an exception," So it is said; and whether or not it holds good in every case, it most certainly does in this, in the person of Mr. W. Sottanstall, the venerable clerk of Sowerby, a village situate on the brow of one of the hills of Yorkshire. A more perfect exception, too I think, it would be difficult to find. As an enthusiastic ringer he has been for very many years highly esteemed in his own district, but as a talented composer, I believe his name will be known throughout the whole Exercise. I well remember how that some years ago, being in that neighbourhood, I determined to see this veteran of whom I had heard so much, and my pilgrimage up the steep hill side was amply rewarded. I found him at his home in the midst of a pretty garden; and no further introduction was needed than the statement that I was a ringer. In less time than it takes to narrate it, I was taken warmly by the hand and ushered inside the house—into the parlour, I think he called it—where everything was the very picture of comfort and cleanliness. The enthusiasm which he showed in speaking of our art, and the pride which he manifested when referring to "the old church," where he had for I know not how many years officiated both as clerk and ringer, will never be effaced from my memory; and I was not surprised therefore when told afterwards how much he was respected by the inhabitants of the village. He must be now far past his "four score years," and in paying this slight tribute to his worth, I believe I may say that many of our brethren throughout the country would be glad to know how the old veteran is "getting along." Perhaps some of our Yorkshire friends will kindly inform us.

* * * * *

Last week I complimented three of our "young ones" on their date touch; this week I see that another younger still has rung a pair of handbells through a peal of Grandsire Triples: that is something to be proud of, not only by the lad himself but by those who have trained him. Let us hope that this achievement is but the precursor of others, and that the young Truss will prove an ornament to the art in which he has made so creditable a beginning.

* * * * *

You furnish us in last week's issue with seven "unique Surprise methods," which were rung at Stockton-on-Tees on May 24th last year. At first sight they appeared an interesting collection, but on examining them I must confess myself disappointed. The difference between them appears so trifling, that I really wonder how they can be regarded as seven different methods. In the leads braced together, I find that with the slight exception of the two changes where the treble is laying full behind, there is actually no difference whatever between each two, and even in the solitary whole pull where this difference exists, the variation is confined to the three front bells. Surely such an insignificant feature like that is not sufficient to constitute a method bearing a distinct name of its own. To my mind it scarcely deserves the name even of a simple variation, and now the term "unique" can be applied to them is to me a mystery. I don't profess to be an authority on six-bell methods, but the slight difference which exists in these peals certainly prevents me from being satisfied in my own mind that they come up to my idea of what should constitute distinct methods.

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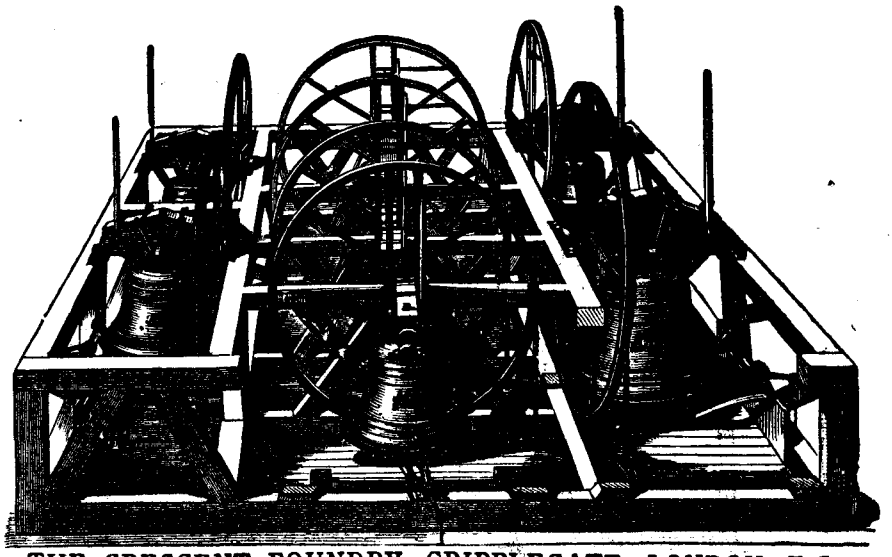

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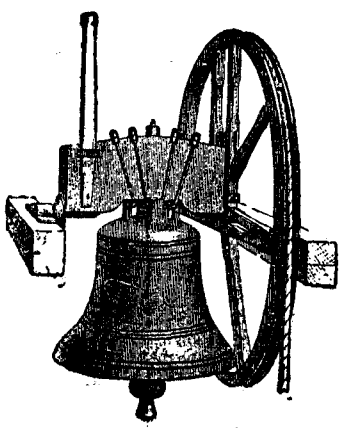

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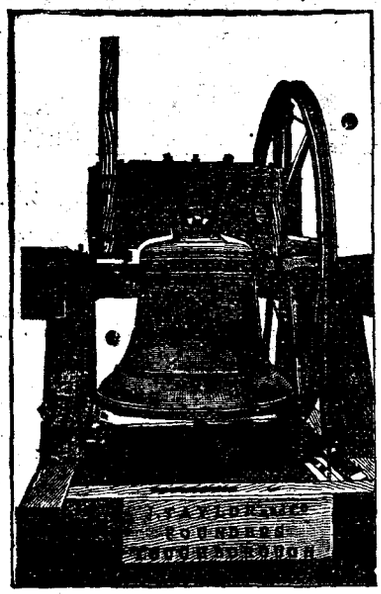

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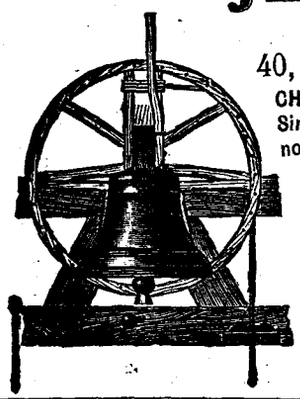

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